

**1. SEASON OF PLAY**

Boys = Winter Season

**2. LEVELS OF COMPETITION**

Senior Level (Varsity) Boys, Open

**3. ELIGIBILITY**

The following classifications shall apply for **Senior BOYS' HOCKEY**:

A/AA                    under - 951 students

AAA                    951 and over

**Note:** School classification is based on enrolment on October 31<sup>st</sup> of the **PREVIOUS** school year.

**Note:** According to ARTICLE XV; Section 1, a team may opt to play at a higher classification if they declare their intention by the Declaration of Play deadlines.

The athlete's birth certificate indicates that **he has not reached his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1<sup>st</sup>** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

**Note: No competitor is eligible for the OFSAA Hockey Championship whose name has appeared on a game sheet, after his local high school first regular season game, for a team in "A", "B", "C", Major Junior, Junior, Intermediate, Senior or GMHL divisions in any National and/or International Association, or any league deemed equivalent to "A", "B", "C". This includes any on-ice All Star or Showcase game organized by leagues/associations named in this clause. This rule applies to SOSSA and NRHSAA league and playoff games.**

**A Junior "B" or "C" team is allowed to AP a high school goalie to be called up in an emergency situation and appear on a game sheet and/or play up to a maximum of two exhibition/league and /or playoff games in total during the season after the Association's first regular season game. An emergency situation would not include an on-ice All Star or Showcase game organized by leagues/associations named above.**

A team must conduct a 'bona fide' high school program consisting of seven (7) practices over a 3 month period [dry land and ice] under the supervision of a teacher as certified by the school principal.

A team must participate in the Association Championship or qualifying event. If neither is held, then the team must play in a minimum of six exhibition games.

**4. ELIGIBILITY SHEETS**

A copy of a signed NRHSAA eligibility sheet must be received by the Convener at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to each team's first league game.

**5. LEAGUE FORMAT FOR NRHSAA BOYS' HOCKEY**

League play will be determined by the Convener and Athletic Designates at the designated individual sport boys meeting. All schools participating in league play must send a representative to the sport body meeting. A school who is not represented forfeits all rights for input into league and playoff format. All sport schedules will have no more than twelve (12) league games in a season.

As standings are used to determine playoff rankings in NRHSAA hockey, the win/loss record against teams that drop out of competition, will be taken away (not added to) from teams that said team has yet to play.

In case of a uniform colour conflict, the home team is responsible for arranging a solution to the conflict.

**Effective October 2018:** A TIER 2 Non-Contact hockey league will be offered in addition to the regular OFSAA bound hockey league. In the non-contact league, a minor penalty, or at the discretion of the Referee, a major penalty and a game misconduct penalty may be assessed to any player who intentionally body checks an opposing player. Where, in the opinion of the Referee, accidental contact has taken place, no penalty shall be assessed.

## 6. OFFICIAL RULEBOOK

- I. Hockey Canada rules shall govern play in the NRHSAA Zones 3 and 4 boys' hockey (unless otherwise outlined below)
- II. Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) suspension list rules shall govern suspensions incurred in NRHSAA regular season and playoff play, with the following exception:
  - a. If a player received 4 minor penalties in one game, that player is ineligible to play the remainder of that game.
- III. The rules of OFSAA and SOSSA boys' hockey shall govern play in the NRHSAA Zones 3 and 4 boys' hockey (Unless otherwise outlined below).
- IV. Each team is allowed one - sixty second time out per game for both regular season and playoffs.
- V. All players must wear mouthguards except possibly the goalkeepers; however, it is strongly recommended that goalkeepers wear mouthguards.
- VI. All players must wear a properly fitted CSA approved helmet with full facemasks.
- VII. All players must wear a throat protector (guard).
- VIII. Goalies must wear a plastic throat bib attached to the mask. The plastic throat bib does not replace the throat protector (guard).

## 7. TIMING OF GAMES

- I. The start of all games will be determined by the Home Team's ice availability
- II. Games will have three (3) fifteen (15) minute periods with stop time OR until curfew, whichever comes first.
- III. There will be a maximum two minute rest period between the first and second period
- IV. There will be a flood between the second and third period
- V. The clock will run continuously during the last ten (10) minutes of a game of there is a five (5) or more goal differential in the score.
- VI. The clock will run continuously during the last three (3) minutes of the game if there is a three (3) or more goal differential in the score.
- VII. The referee has the option of stopping a game at any time.
- VIII.

## 8. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE PLAYOFF RANKINGS

These procedures shall be used when determining a play-off position when a league schedule leads to play-offs:

- (1) Record between tied teams;
- (2) Record against teams higher in the standings (1 above, then 2 above, etc.);

- (3) Record against teams lower in the standings (1 below, then 2 below, etc.);
- (4)
  - (a) Coin flip to determine playoff position only. The conveners will perform the coin flip. The school that is alphabetically highest will have “heads” in the coin flip. The convener will notify schools of the results.
  - (b) Playoff on a neutral field/court or a coin flip for home field will be conducted if both coaches agree, if it is to determine the final playoff position.
  - (c) In the event of a four (4) way tie, the conveners, in consultation with the NRHSAA executive and the schools involved, will determine a tie breaking procedure.

**9. GAME FORFEITURES**

The following policies are in place for game forfeitures:

- (1) Should a team forfeit a game with less than forty-eight (48) hours’ notice, all costs associated with the game shall be charged to the forfeiting school.
- (2) Should a team forfeit a game, the forfeiting team will be given a loss as a result of the forfeit.
- (3) Should a team forfeit two (2) games during regular season play, the team shall be removed from the league and all points earned in games played against that team shall be removed from league standings.
- (4) A team that forfeits a game during the regular season loses all rights with regards to tie breaking procedures. (i.e. if the team is tied for third (3<sup>rd</sup>), the team will be relegated to fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) place).
- (5) A team that forfeits a playoff game shall also forfeit the right to play any further playoff games at the current or subsequent level of playoffs (i.e. when two (2) teams qualify for SOSSA). (April 2016)

**10. HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

- I. Secure ice time at a local arena and report start time to the Convenor prior to the aforementioned Individual Sport Body Meeting.
- II. Provide and prepare minor officials (Scorekeeper and timer)
- III. Provide minor officials with an NRHSAA SCORE SHEET. Score sheets can be downloaded from the NRHSAA website.

**11. REPORTING SCORES**

- I. The home team is responsible for reporting game scores and uploading game sheets onto the NRHSAA website. Home team coaches are asked to please scan and send a copy of the official game sheet to the convener via email.

**12. OFFICIALS**

All officials must be accredited

**13. PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS**

- I. All officials will be paid at the game
- II. The home team is responsible for paying all officials (including playoffs, unless in a playoff situation a game is being played at a neutral site; in which case, the cost of officials will be shared equally between both schools.

**14. PLAY-OFF FORMAT FOR NRHSAA BOYS HOCKEY**

In addition to all rules, regulations and protocols notes above:

- a. Play-offs will be determined at the Individual Sport Body Meeting.
- b. All playoff games are single elimination game.
- c. During hockey playoffs, the home team should book **two (2) hours** of ice time in order to try and prevent the implementation of arena curfew procedures.

**15. TIED PLAYOFF GAMES STILL IN REGULATION WITH CURFEW LOOMING****(1) TIED PLAYOFF GAME:**

If a playoff game is tied at a point ten (10) minutes before the arena curfew time, then the game will be stopped: there will be a five (5) minute sudden death overtime (straight time) period played. If a tie still exists then a sudden death shoot out will occur.

**(2) NOT TIED AT 10 MINUTES before curfew BUT BECOMES TIED at curfew:**

If a playoff game is **NOT** tied at a point ten (10) minutes before the arena curfew time, then the game continues. If the game is tied **AT** curfew then the winner will be the team ahead at a point ten (10) minutes before curfew.

**16. TIED PLAYOFF GAME AT THE END OF REGULATION PLAY (I.E OVERTIME)**

1. There will be a one-minute rest between the third and fourth period.
2. No extra timeouts will be allowed.
3. All overtime is sudden death (i.e. first goal scored wins the game)
4. All overtime periods will be five minutes stop time.
5. During the first five-minute overtime period, the teams will play five on five.
6. During the second five-minute overtime period, the teams will play four on four.
7. During the third five-minute overtime period, the teams will play three on three.
8. During any additional five-minute periods, the team will continue to play three on three.
9. If at any time an overtime game is within ten (10) minutes of arena curfew, the game will be stopped, and a penalty shot system will be implemented.
  - (i) Total goals of a three (3) player pool from each team.
  - (ii) If still tied, the remaining players will take alternating shots until a winner is determined.

**17.    SUSPENSIONS**

- A)      The NRHSAA will annually adopt the OMHA Suspension List for infractions which occur in any NRHSAA league or play-off game. The OMHA Minimum Suspension List stipulates minimum suspensions. Additional suspensions may be imposed by the convener and/or the NRHSAA Board of Reference-Sanctions and Protests whenever conditions and circumstances warrant, i.e. with reference to Article XXIII of the NRHSAA Constitution, Section 1 – Ejection from Competition and Section 2 – Physical or Verbal Altercation. Minimum OMHA Suspensions will be imposed for any and all Misconducts (m), Game Misconducts (GM), Gross Misconducts (GRM), Pre or Post Game Altercations (PG) and Match Penalties. It will be the duty of the coach of the infringing team to notify the convener of any and all player ejections. The coach must identify the penalty in an e mail at the conclusion of the game and follow up by forwarding a copy of the game sheet to the convener. Please be aware that SOSSA and OFSAA may also implement further suspensions.
- B)      **Ejection from competition:** When a player is ejected from a game, that player is not to leave the ice surface until met by a coach at the exit door. The coach is to walk the player to the change room.

**C) Game Suspensions leading to a team removal from league play:**

- Following a **one “game suspension”** (defined as a penalty which results in a player missing the next game [or more than one game] as the result of a game misconduct or match penalty due to unsportsmanlike behavior, as defined by the OMHA rule book), the high school administrator will receive a form letter from the NRHSAA Executive, through the sports coordinator, indicating the suspension as well as the progressive repercussions should more suspensions occur within that season.
- Following a team’s **third “game suspension”**, that team will be notified that it will be on a one year “probation” during the following season. Probation indicates that should that team incur three game suspensions once again, in the following season, said team will be removed from league play for the remainder of that season (forfeiting any rights to post season participation), and will not be permitted to participate in that sport in the season to follow.
- Following a team’s **fifth “game suspension”** within a season, that team will be removed from league play, effective immediately, and will not be permitted to participate in the following season.

If a player(s) is/are ejected from a league or play off high school hockey game, there will be an automatic 1 game suspension. (Refer to: Constitution page 22, Article XXIII - Section 1).

Constitutional sanctions (1-3-5 RULE) will be applied ONLY to the following GM, INS, AGG and GRM infractions as listed in the OMHA Manual of Operations.

GM	Fighting	
GM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fight	
GM	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> into a fight	
GM	Leaving a Players’ Bench or Penalty Box Coach who has the 1 <sup>st</sup> Player leave bench or Penalty Box	
INS	Instigator	
AGG	Aggressor	
GM	Checking from behind	Major & Game + 3 More Games

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GM	High Sticking	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Cross Checking	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Slashing	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Boarding / Body Checking	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Elbowing / Kneeing	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Charging	Major & Game + 2 More Games
GM	Discriminatory Slur	3 Games
GM	Trash Talking	2 Games
GRM	Travesty of the Game	3 Games
GRM	Obscene Gesture	3 Games
GRM	Removing Helmet	3 Games
GRM	Head Butt	Double Minor = 3 Games
GRM	Butt Ending	Double Minor = 3 Games
GRM	Spearing	Double Minor = 3 Games

ALL OTHER PENALTIES ASSESSED WILL NOT BE PART OF THE 1 -3 -5 RULING IN NRHSAA BOYS' HOCKEY.

### 18.      ZONE QUALIFICATION TO SOSSA

One (1) champion from each Zone will go to SOSSA.