



NEW ENGLAND STATES RIVALRY CHALLENGE

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

Standard USA Hockey rules apply for each age group unless otherwise specified in this document.

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SECTION I

TOURNAMENT RULES

The following rules may be amended prior to the tournament with any changes to the tournament format. Standard USA Hockey rules will apply for the appropriate age group unless otherwise specified below.

GENERAL RULES

- ✓ Tag-up offside will be used.
- ✓ Teams may ice the puck while shorthanded during a penalty.
- ✓ All teams must be prepared to begin play 15 minutes ahead of schedule.
- ✓ Each team will receive one (1) 30-second timeout (playoff games only).
- ✓ Body checking is not permitted for incoming Bantam players (born 2014).
- ✓ Players must participate in at least two (2) round robin games to be eligible for playoff rounds.

GAME FORMAT

- ✓ 3-minute warm-up period before each game.
- ✓ Three (3) 15-minute stop-time periods.
- ✓ A 3-player shootout resolves any round robin tie. No overtime in round robin play.

PENALTY DURATIONS

PENALTY TYPE	DURATION
Minor	1:30
Major	4:00
Misconduct	6:00

SECTION II

SCORING

All divisions will use the following 3-point scoring system:

RESULT	POINTS
Win, regulation	3 pts
Win, shootout	2 pts
Loss, shootout	1 pt
Loss, regulation	0 pts

ADDITIONAL SCORING RULES

- ✓ Round robin and playoff structure is determined by the number of registered teams per division.
- ✓ If a team leads by 5+ goals in the final 10 minutes, running time begins. Stop time resumes if the margin drops to two (2) goals.
- ✓ Maximum recordable goal differential per game is ± 7 for seeding purposes.

SECTION III

SHOOTOUT RULES

A 3-player shootout will decide any round robin game tied at the conclusion of regulation. The following rules govern all shootout situations:

- ✓ Shooters from each team alternate. The home team designates who shoots first.
- ✓ If still tied after three (3) rounds, the shootout continues in sudden death with new shooters.
- ✓ A player from the initial group of three may not shoot again until all other eligible players have had an opportunity, or the opposing team has exhausted its shooters.
- ✓ Goalies are not eligible to participate as shooters.
- ✓ Any player currently serving a penalty must complete it in full before being eligible to shoot.

SECTION IV

OFFICIALS

All tournament officials are current members in good standing and are deemed qualified to officiate at the level of play to which they are assigned.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

A zero-tolerance policy for verbal abuse is in full effect and will be strictly enforced for all team officials, players, and spectators throughout the entire duration of the tournament. There are no exceptions.

Appropriate penalties will be assessed for disputing or arguing any official decision, any visual demonstration of dissatisfaction, or the use of obscene or vulgar language toward any person at any time during the tournament.

The tournament director does not have the authority to reverse decisions made by game officials.

SECTION V

PENALTY RULES

- ✓ Any player accumulating four (4) or more penalties in a single game must sit out the team's next game.
- ✓ If a team accumulates twelve (12) or more penalties in a single game, the head coach must sit out the team's next game.
- ✓ Any individual receiving a game misconduct must sit out the team's next game.
- ✓ Any individual receiving a match penalty is disqualified from all further tournament play.
- ✓ The acting tournament director reserves the right to take any action necessary to ensure participant safety, including modification of any rule herein.
- ✓ All decisions made by the acting tournament director are final.

SECTION VI

PLAYOFFS

Playoff matchups will be posted online approximately 45 minutes after the conclusion of the final round robin game in each division. Game times and rink assignments will be finalized at that time. Any brackets published prior are placeholders subject to change.

SECTION VII

TIEBREAKERS

The following tiebreakers are applied in order to determine playoff seeding. When more than two teams are tied, the process restarts for any teams that remain tied after one is separated.

- 1** Head-to-head record (two-team tiebreakers only)
- 2** Regulation wins
- 3** Goal differential: goals scored minus goals allowed
- 4** Fewest goals allowed
- 5** Most goals scored
- 6** Lowest total penalty minutes
- 7** Coin toss, team representatives agree on who calls the flip

SECTION VIII

PLAYOFF OVERTIME

If a Quarter, Semi, or Championship game is tied at the conclusion of regulation, the following format applies:

- ✓ 3-on-3 sudden death overtime, 10 minutes, stop time.
- ✓ All penalties in effect at the end of regulation carry over. A penalized team skates shorthanded; the non-penalized team adds a skater for the power play.
- ✓ If still tied after 10 minutes, a 1-minute intermission follows and the format repeats until a winner is determined.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- ✓ No shootout will be conducted in Championship games under any circumstances.
- ✓ Repeating 10-minute sudden death periods with 1-minute intermissions continue until a winner is determined.

ALL OTHER PLAYOFF GAMES

- ✓ If overtime produces no winner, a 3-player shootout follows per Section III above.
- ✓ If the shootout remains tied, sudden death rounds continue until a winner is determined.