



**YORK REGION ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BOYS' HOCKEY PLAYING REGULATIONS**



1. Season of Play:

Winter Sport

2. Divisions:

Varsity

All YRAA sports will be offered at two tiers of competition provided the following conditions are met:

- A) The minimum number of teams to run a league will be 4. If less than 4 teams declare for a league, the convenor(s) of the league may appeal to the executive for an exception. Appeals must be heard before the pre-season meeting for that sport.
- B) If a sport declares less than 4 teams three years in a row, the sport will no longer be offered as an option by the YRAA.

3. Eligibility:

a) See YRAA transfer application form.

b) AGE DIVISION CATEGORIES

Senior School Year: **2024-25**

Year of Birth must be no earlier than: **2005**

Date of Entry to grade 9 must be no earlier than August of: **2020**

- c) A student must not have played for any Level 'A', 'B', 'C', Major Junior, Junior, Intermediate, Senior or GMHL divisions in any National and/or International Association, or and league deemed equivalent to "A" or "B", or "C" or 'D', Junior, Intermediate or Senior Division team, or equivalent, (in any of the team's exhibition or league games), after the first league game of the concurrent Y.R.A.A. high school schedule:

Exception to this rule. 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 Associations first regular season game

- d) Any team with a player contravening d), above, will forfeit all points for wins and ties while the student in question was participating.
- e) Players must play a minimum number of games to be eligible for YRAA playoffs. The number of games necessary will be determined at the preseason coaches meeting. Teams advancing to OFSAA will have their eligibility dictated by the OFSAA Constitution (i.e. 1 game) not by these playing regulations.
- f) A team may dress no more than twenty (20) players including goalkeepers and no less than ten (10) skaters plus goalkeepers for league or playoff games. Players must be dressed for the start of the game and on the bench.



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- g) Team's eligibility list may include a total of twenty-four (24) players. Each team should identify their third string goaltender on their eligibility sheet. Third string goaltenders will be eligible for playoffs without playing the number of league games listed in rule f) above.
- h) Each team must be available to play each week of the season except for weeks during which exams are written by the players. No team may play more than two (2) league games per week unless under exceptional circumstances as deemed by the convenor.
- i) Any age appropriate junior player who does not play on an "AA" or "AAA" level team would be eligible to play Junior Tier 2.
- j) A student/athlete must be on the team roster at the proper age group (Mid/Jr/Sr) for a specific sport and tier, to be eligible to participate in that sport. The team roster must be completed on-line twenty-four hours prior to the commencement of the competition.

4. Governing Rules:

Refer to the current OPHEA safety guidelines for this sport

The C.A.H.A. Rules will govern, with the following exceptions:

- a) Any player who is assessed a major penalty for fighting during league play, regardless of who is assessed the instigator minor penalty, will automatically be suspended from high school hockey for the remainder of that season. A Board of Reference will be required to determine eligibility for other sports for that and other school years.
 - i) Body checking (which is different from body contact) is not be allowed in Tier 2. Any body contact without an effort to play the puck is subject to a two (2) minute penalty. More serious instances of the above (at the referee's discretion) could be subject to a major penalty.
- b) Any player who is assessed a match penalty 'Attempt to Injure' or 'kicking' will be automatically suspended from high school hockey for the remainder of the



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season and playoffs. A Board of Reference will be required to determine eligibility for other sports for that and other school years.

- c) The YRAA uses the OMHA Suspension List shown below as a guideline for the minimum number of games a student/athlete will be suspended for the following infraction. This list does not include all misconducts and game misconducts, only those requiring a Board of Reference and/or an automatic suspension. Misconduct codes not listed do not need to appear before the Board of Reference. These are only guidelines. The YRAA Board of Reference may suspend longer if they see fit to do so. Game suspensions must be served in YRAA play. Tournaments and exhibition games do not count toward suspension and student/athletes may not play in any such games until their suspension is served. Note that misconducts result in a minimum 10 minute penalty while game misconducts carry a minimum number of game(s) suspension.

CODE	MISCONDUCTS & GAME MISCONDUCTS	MINIMUM SUSPENSION	BOARD OF REFERENCE REQUIRED
M20	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	0 games	No
M21	Disrespectful, abusive and harassing behaviour	0 games	No
M22	Inciting	Removal from game in progress and additional 1 game	No
GM 20	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	2 games	Yes
GM 21	Disrespectful, abusive and harassing behaviour	3 games	Yes
GM 28	Interference from the Bench	2 games	No
GM 30	Fighting	rest of season	Yes
GM 32	3 rd , 4 th , 5 th man into fight	rest of season	Yes
GM 34	Leaving players Bench or Penalty Box	4 games	Yes
GM 55	Checking from Behind	1 game	No

- d) Any player who receives three (3) minor stick infraction (two (2) minute) penalties in one game will be suspended for the remainder of that game and must leave the ice at the time of the third penalty. A Board of Reference is not required. A player on the ice at the time of the third penalty will serve the penalty for the suspended player.
- e) No minor penalty can be assessed a team if they do not start the first six (6) players listed on the game sheet.
- f) By signing the score sheet, the coach is verifying that all the roster information is correct and all students on the roster are present, dressed, able and eligible to play. Incorrect or inaccurate information on a game sheet may result in the game being forfeited.
- g) The centre red line is used only to determine potential icing situations. The centre red line will not be used to restrict the distance of a pass.
- h) Each team is allowed one (1) thirty (30) second time out per game.



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- i) A second ten (10) minute misconduct in the same game will remove that player from that game and require a Board of Reference. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of that game.
- j) When a game is defaulted, after the start of the season, the players of the team that did not default are credited with a game played and the game also counts towards any game suspension totals. The defaulting team's players DO NOT receive credit towards the game played or game suspension totals. The score for a defaulted game is 1-0.
- k) Teams participating in the Senior Division must have both home and away sweaters. The home team will wear white unless previously arranged.
- l) Board of Reference: From YRAA Constitution – Article VI, Section IV, h) Procedures: 'Any player who is disqualified from a competition in which he/she is representing a member school – LEAGUE, PLAYOFF, EXHIBITION, REPRESENTATIVE COMPETITIONS OR TOURNAMENT PLAY shall be ruled out of the game/competition immediately and must not be allowed to compete for any school team in any sport until that player has attended a Board of Reference.' The only exceptions to this are: An accumulation of three (3) minor (two (2) minute) stick infractions removes a player from the game but does not require a Board of Reference and a student-athlete that receives two misconduct penalties in the same game for improperly wearing their mouth guard will receive an automatic one game suspension but will not be required to attend a Board of Reference.
- m) LENGTH OF PERIODS AND GAMES: (PLAYOFFS INCLUDED)
 - i) Games should be one (1) ten (10) minute, followed by two (2) fifteen (15) minute periods. Schools should arrange a minimum of one (1) hour, thirty (30) minutes of ice time for each game, to accommodate the game time. Coaches are encouraged to discuss if a flood will occur, time permitting, before the game starts.
 - ii) Where these stopped time periods cannot be accommodated, the game should continue using stopped time until the arena terminates the game by curfew, (or the stopped time does expire)
 - iii) The clock goes to running time in the third period if the goal spread is, or becomes five (5) or more. Stop time is resumed if the spread decreases to three (3) goals.
 - iv) No YRAA hockey game may begin before 2:30 p.m. unless application for an earlier start has been submitted to and approved by the YRAA Executive and must be finished by 6:30 p.m.
 - v) When a game cannot be played, a zero-zero tie will be declared and no points will be awarded either team.
- n) PLAYOFFS:
 - (i) Junior playoff format will be decided by a majority vote of the junior coaches in attendance at the preseason coaches meeting in the fall.
 - ii) Senior playoff format will be decided by a majority vote of the senior coaches in attendance at the preseason coaches meeting in the fall.
 - iii) Playoff series that are not single elimination shall be a four (4) point series, with the first team getting to four (4) points being declared the winner.



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- iv) YRAA championships at the Junior Level shall be the best two (2) out of three (3) games.
- v) The Senior Final will be the best two (2) out of three (3) games. In cases where there are two (2) representatives going to OFSAA, the final game will be a one (1) game series.
- vi) Each school entering a Junior Team will receive one (1) vote toward each motion on playoff format at the Junior level.
- vii) Each school entering a Senior Team will receive one (1) vote toward each motion on playoff format at the Senior level.
- viii) In addition, ties will be broken by the convenor.
- ix) Playoff games that end regulation time in a tie will play a series of ten (10) minute sudden victory overtime periods as long as the ice time is available. This will continue until the arena terminates the ice permit. If a winner is determined in overtime, that team shall receive two (2) points with the losing team receiving zero (0) points. If the game ends by curfew and remains a time, each team will receive one (1) point and games will alternate home location.
- x) Final league standings will be determined by the following criteria: (in order):
 - highest regular season points,(if a tie still exists, then, ...)
 - most wins in head to head games, (if a tie still exists, then...)
 - highest number of wins, (if a tie still exists, then...)
 - Goals for minus goals against divided by goals against.
 - most goals for, (if a tie still exists, then...)
 - fewest goals against, (if a tie still exists, then...)
 - a coin toss.
- xi) For all playoff games, schools shall arrange a minimum of two hours of ice time to accommodate the game.
- xii) For the senior boys' final, a three (3) man system will be used for all games.

5. Officials:

- a) Officials are to be paid by home teams at a per game rate to be determined at the preseason meeting.



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- b) Officials may not officiate any hockey game where they are related in any way to the participants.

6. Coaches Duties:

- a) The coach of a team must supply each player of his team with a copy of the YRAA Playing Regulations at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the first game.
- b) The winning coach must forward game sheets to the convenor immediately after a game. The game sheets must be at the convenor no later than one (1) week after a game is played. During the last week of the regular season, coaches have until the end of the week to submit game sheets to the convenor for games played that week.
- c) Suspensions and ejections are to be reported to the Athletic Liaison by the end of the following school day.
- d) Coaches must bring Disqualification Reports to each game. It is the coach's responsibility to ask officials to fill out these reports. These reports must be forwarded to the convenor prior to any Board of Reference hearing for the players to be eligible to attend the Board of Reference.
- e) It is the coach's responsibility to supervise any player ejected from a game.
- f) A coach may not call or communicate with any official except the referee-in-chief to discuss or reschedule a game.
- g) Any coach wishing to reschedule a game must contact the opposing coach to arrange a suitable date and time. If none is agreed upon, then the game is to be played as originally scheduled. It is the responsibility of the initiating coach to arrange for officials as outlined in h), above and then inform the convenor.

7. Supervision of Teams/Individuals:

- a) All teams or individuals must have on site supervision by a member of the teaching staff or retired teacher from the school that they represent.
- b) This teacher shall be responsible to the YRAA for the conduct of his/her team and shall be the only person involved in all exchanges with officials, opposing teacher/coaches and members of school staffs.
- c) A non-teacher (community volunteer, parent, etc.) is permitted to assist in the coaching of an individual or team provided that a teacher is present and responsible.
- d) The teacher must be present on the bench for team sports or in the immediate vicinity for all other sports.
- e) Unless the staff member (as defined in Section 1 a) – above) of the competing school is present, the opposing teacher/coach and/or convenor shall not allow the game to begin or an individual to compete and the competition shall be forfeited.



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- f) No teacher/coach shall officiate a game involving his/her team.
- g) It is the teacher/coaches' duty to ensure the accuracy of the information provided on the game sheets compared to the team's eligibility list.

8. Inclement Weather:

- a) In the event of inclement weather, games may be cancelled and rescheduled if:
 - i) the transportation company (bus) cancels the booking OR
 - ii) the school principal determines that the weather is unsafe for teams to travel OR
 - iii) the host school teacher/coach, in consultation with the Athletic Designate and/or school administration, determines the playing environment to be unsafe (eg standing water on fields, excessive ice).

Whenever possible, it is recommended that a decision to cancel a game due to inclement weather be made by 1:00 p.m. the day of the game.

- b) Once this has happened the coach or AD of the school canceling shall:
 - i) notify the school(s) being played that they will not be able to play due to inclement weather;
 - ii) contact the YRAA office that the game is being cancelled due to inclement weather;
 - iii) make arrangements with the school(s) involved to reschedule the game(s) at a date that is acceptable to all parties and fits within the established master schedule. Should a mutually agreeable date to reschedule not be found within forty-eight (48) hours, the convenor will assign a date that fits in to the master schedule.
- c) The YRAA office will:
 - i) keep a record of cancelled games in order to ensure that they are rescheduled
 - ii) notify the referee assignor that the games are cancelled and will be rescheduled so that unnecessary travel by officials can be avoided.

9. Convenor's Duties:

As per YRAA Constitution - Article XV:

- a) The convenor will send to each coach, a letter for each player, outlining expectations of the league.



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10. Qualifying to OFSAA:

All teams regardless of classification (A, AA, AAA) will have access to the YRAA championships. Following the championships, the highest placing team from each classification will advance to OFSAA. This may require a head-to-head playoff.

- a) Teams wishing to vie for an OFSAA entry must declare and compete in tier 1 for YRAA play. The exception to this requirement will be for school's competing in the "A" classification.
- b) If an AA classified school wins the YRAA championship, they will be the Association representative to OFSAA for their classification. In all other circumstances where there are two (2) or more teams at the A or AA classification that declare their intention to vie for OFSAA, a separate playoff will be held to determine the Association representative at those classifications.
- c) If there are fewer than four (4) A or AA teams, these teams will be included in the existing league and playoffs.
- d) When the top two (2) teams in a classification advance to the same standing, a head-to-head playoff will occur.
- e) Where a classification is not represented in playoffs, the top team in each zone will play off or the top two (2) in league play (whichever applies).
- f) Awards will be provided as outlined in the Constitution (Article 12).

11. Costs:

The financial cost of the operation of the playoffs plus the assignor(s) fee(s) shall be shared equally by all schools participating in the league, regardless of classification (A, AA, AAA) on a per team basis.

12. Reporting Scores:

For league games coaches are to report scores through the Sports Admin System. Login as a coach, click on the 'Games' tab, find the game you want to enter the score for then click on the yellow 'Edit' button beside the game and then enter the score beside the corresponding team.

13. Awards:

Tier 1 and 2 – Senior

Individual medallions (20) will be presented to the first and second place teams. A pennant (tier 1) and team trophy (tier 1) will be presented to the championship team.

September 2024