



**YORK REGION ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
VARSITY GIRLS' HOCKEY PLAYING REGULATIONS**



1. Season of Play: Winter
2. Divisions: Varsity Tier 1 and Tier 2

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 policy
- b) Age Division Categories

Varsity School Year: **2019-20**

Year of Birth must be no earlier than: **2004**

Date of Entry to grade 9 must be no earlier than August of: **2015**

- c) Any member of the National Junior Under 22 or National Senior Team is ineligible for YRAA competition
- d) **Any player whose name has appeared on a game sheet, for any Senior AAA teams of the CWHL is ineligible for YRAA Competition**
- e) Players must play in a minimum of three (3) league games to be eligible for the YRAA playoffs.
- f) A team's eligibility list may include a total of thirty (30) 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 d) above.
- g) Each team must be available to play each week of the season. No team may play more than two league games per week unless under exceptional circumstances as deemed by the convenor.
- h) An official YRAA Eligibility Form must be completed on the YRAA website at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the first league game.
- i) A student/athlete must be on the team roster at the proper age group 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

- a) Refer to the current OPHEA safety guidelines for this sport
- b) The C.A.H.A. Rules will govern, with the following exceptions:
 - i) A player receiving a five (5) minute major penalty will receive a game misconduct and is ineligible for any further play (league or exhibition) in any sport until he appears before a Board of Reference.



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- ii) 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.
 - iii) No minor penalty can be assessed a team if they do not start the first six (6) players listed on the game sheet.
 - iv) Coaches are required to sign the game sheet guaranteeing the presence of all players on the game sheet.
 - v) The centre red line is only used to determine potential icing situations.
 - vi) Each team is allowed one (1) thirty (30) second time out per game
 - vii) 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. 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.
 - viii) 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.
 - ix) Where there is a conflict in sweater colours, the home team will be responsible to change sweaters.
- c) Length of Periods and Games (Playoffs Included)
- i) Games should be three (3) twelve (12) minute stop time periods. Schools should arrange a minimum of one (1) hour of ice time for each game to accommodate the game time.
 - 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). Officials will penalize teams abusing this rule.
 - iii) If at any time in the third period of any game there occurs a difference of five (5) goals between the scores of the two teams, then the clock is to begin running time at the following face-off, and continue running until the period is finished.
 - iv) No YRAA hockey game may begin before 3:00 p.m. unless application for an earlier start has been submitted to and approved by the YRAA Executive.
 - v) When a game cannot be played, a zero-zero tie will be declared and no points will be awarded either team.
 - vi) The number of games will be determined by the coaches at the pre- season meeting.
 - vii) Penalties as per OWHA rules.



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d) Playoffs:

- i) The varsity playoff format will be decided by a majority vote of the varsity coaches in attendance at the pre-season coaches meeting in the fall.
- ii) Championships will be the best two (2) out of three (3) series. The Tier 1 final will be the best two (2) out of three (3) games. In cases where both teams competing for the Tier 1 Championship will be going to OFSAA, the final game will be a one(1) game series.
- iii) Each school entering a varsity team will receive one (1) vote toward each motion on playoff format at the varsity level.
- iv) In addition, ties will be broken by the convenor.
- v) Playoff games that end regulation time in a tie will begin an ongoing series of sudden-death, ten (10) minute periods to determine a winner. (The game will end at the first goal and teams will change ends every ten (10) minutes.) This will continue until the arena terminates the ice permit. If no winner is decided, then the game must be replayed.
- vi) 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.)
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- vii) For all playoff games, schools shall arrange a minimum of two hours of ice time to accommodate the game.

e) Coaches Duties:

- i) 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.
- ii) 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.
- iii) Suspensions and ejections are to be reported to the Athletic Coordinator by the end of the following school day.
- iv) 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.
- v) It is the coaches responsibility to supervise any player ejected from a game.



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- vi) A coach may not call or communicate with any official except the referee- in-chief to discuss or reschedule a game.
- vii) 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.

5. 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.

6. Supervision of Team/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 member of school staffs.
- c) A non-teacher is permitted to assist in the coaching of an individual or team provided that a teacher is present and responsible.



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- d) The teacher must be present on the bench for team sorts 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.
- 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.

7. 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 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).

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. Awards

Tier 1 and 2

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.