

PLAYING REGULATION 9.0 - VARSITY HOCKEY

1. **SAFETY GUIDELINES:** Each HSSAA Member School shall ensure that the Physical Education Safety Guidelines - Secondary Inter School Module 1999, outlined according to the following Critical Components: EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING / FOOTWEAR, FACILITIES, SPECIAL RULES / INSTRUCTION and SUPERVISION be adhered to at all times. Specific details on the Critical Components will be provided at the Pre-Season Coaches Meeting.
2. **AGES:** As governed by H.S.S.A.A. Constitution Article XI, Section VII.
3. **EVENTS:** Varsity Hockey shall be aligned into two Divisions (Volpe/Richardson) for league play. There will be competition for one HSSAA Team Champion at the conclusion of league play
4. **ELIGIBILITY:** As governed by H.S.S.A.A. Constitution Article XI, Section V.
5. **ENTRIES:** Each H.S.S.A.A. Member School may enter one team.
6. **RULE BOOK:** C.H.A. Rules for the current year shall apply.
7. **QUALIFIED OFFICIALS:**

REFEREES: As per H.S.S.A.A. Constitution By-Laws Article XV, Section IV, Subsection 7. H.S.S.A.A. Hockey League Games shall be officiated by a two person system, unless otherwise arranged before the start of each season. H.S.S.A.A. Playoff and Championship Games shall be officiated by a three person system.

FIRST AID: It is the responsibility of the Home Team to ensure that a qualified First Aid person is on site for each game. The Convenor will arrange for sideline care at any neutral site. Games must be rescheduled if a qualified First Aid Person is not available.
8. **STARTING TIME:** As specified by the H.S.S.A.A. Athletic Convenor.
9. **AWARDS:**
 - A Halton Trophy shall be awarded to the League Champions.
 - Medallions shall be awarded to each member of the League Championship Team.
 - Finalist Medallions shall be awarded to each member of the League Finalist Team.
10. **GHAC REPRESENTATION:** The highest surviving "A/AA" team and "AAA/AAAA" team from HSSAA playoff competition shall advance to represent the HSSAA at GHAC Qualifying Competition and/or OFSAA Competition. In the event that the final two teams in the same OFSAA designation (A/AA or AAA/AAAA) are eliminated at the same point in HSSAA playoff progression, a single game shall be played between the teams to determine representation to GHAC and/or OFSAA Qualifying Competition, with the winner advancing.
11. **GENERAL REGULATIONS:** (A) **HOCKEY MANAGEMENT TEAM**
 - a) Hockey disciplinary and monitoring functions shall be administered by a Hockey Management Team, further referred to as "H.M.T."
 - b) The H.M.T. shall consist of the HSSAA Athletic Convenor and the Hockey Advisor / Director. The HSSAA Convenor and Advisor / Director shall carry out all administrative functions.
 - c) The Advisor / Director shall be selected in accordance with the system of rotation currently in effect.

- d) The H.M.T. shall monitor game sheets regularly and identify players who accumulate a significant amount of penalties. The H.M.T. shall take special note of penalties that appear to reflect a hostile attitude or loss of composure. Whenever a player is so identified, the H.M.T. shall inform the coach in writing. If the player's behaviour is not corrected promptly, the H.M.T. shall again inform the coach in writing with copy to the Head of Physical Education and Principal of the School. The responsibility for correction of the player's behaviour rests with the school.
- e) The H.M.T. shall review all suspensions imposed under Playing Regulations. The H.M.T. shall have the authority to extend a suspension beyond the minimum number of games specified in Playing Regulations, if warranted by the facts in the case. The H.M.T. shall have no authority to reduce or rescind any suspensions. The H.M.T. shall review every case within (10) days of the offence. In the case of a Match Penalty, which bars the player from play until the case is heard, the H.M.T. shall meet as promptly as possible to avoid unwarranted extension of the suspension.
- f) Should specific incidents at arenas not be reported on game sheets, the H.M.T. shall investigate any hockey related matter brought to it that may have been a violation of the H.S.S.A.A. Constitution or Playing Regulations, or a departure from good school citizenship. The H.M.T. may bring its findings to a Board of Reference and/or the Principal(s) concerned.
- g) The H.M.T. shall work to strengthen the authority of the Referee(s) by:
- Meeting with officials before the start of the season to clarify expectations.
 - Administering a regular evaluation of Referees by Coaches and reporting the results to the Referee-In-Chief.

B) PLAYOFF FORMAT

The top six (6) teams in each Division at the conclusion of scheduled league play shall qualify for playoff competition. Playoff competition shall consist of four (4) series called: Preliminary, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final & Final. Preliminary and Final Series will be one (1) game sudden-victory. Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Series will be a two (2) game, three (3) point format.

PRELIMINARY SERIES: The first and second place teams in each Division will receive a bye into the Quarter-Final Series. Within each Division, the third place team will host the sixth place team and the fourth place team will host the fifth place team. The Series Winners advance to the Quarter-Final Series.

QUARTER-FINAL SERIES: Within each Division, the first place team will host the winner of the Preliminary Series with the poorest league record and the second place team will host the winner of the other Preliminary Series. A two (2) game, three (3) point series format shall be employed. The Series Winners advance to the Semi-Final Series.

SEMI-FINAL SERIES: The highest ranked surviving teams from each Division will cross over and play the lowest ranked surviving teams from the other Division. A two (2) game, three (3) point series format shall be employed. The Series Winners advance to the Halton Final Series.

HALTON FINAL SERIES: The winners of the Semi-Final Series will play in the Halton Championship Final.

PLAYOFF FORMAT: QUARTER-FINAL, SEMI-FINAL SERIES

- If a team wins Game #1 by a goal spread of five (5) goals or more, the series concludes and a second game is not scheduled or played.
- If Game #1 is tied at the end of regulation time, the tie will stand and each team shall receive a single point. In the event of a victory by less than five (5) goals, the winning team shall receive two (2) points and the losing team shall receive zero points. In the event of a tie or a victory by fewer than five (5) goals in Game #1, a second game shall be played. Points for a tie or victory in Game #2 shall be awarded in the identical fashion as in Game #1.
- In the event that both teams each have a win or each have a tie at the conclusion of regulation time in Game #2, a series of twelve (12) minute Sudden Death Overtime Periods shall be played, until ten (10) minutes to curfew, at which point in time, a Sudden Death Shoot Out format shall be instituted to determine the conclusion of the Playoff Series.

C) TIE BREAKING FORMULA - LEAGUE STANDINGS

In the event of a tie in Division Standings at the conclusion of scheduled league play, the following criteria shall be used to determine final standings:

- i) The record between the two teams during league play.
- ii) The team achieving the most wins during league play shall finish higher.
- iii) Plus/Minus goal spread between the tied teams in head to head competition during League play.
- iv) Plus/minus goal spread rated over the entire League Schedule.

D) SUPERVISION

Each team using a non-teacher as a coach must have a teacher supervisor in attendance at all games.

E) RULES REVISIONS

H.S.S.A.A. Hockey shall use the current Official Hockey Rules as set out by the Canadian Hockey Association, with the following revisions:

RULE #16: PLAYERS IN UNIFORM

- a) The maximum number of players permitted to dress for a game is twenty (20), eighteen (18) plus two (2) goaltenders.

RULE #24: PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- b) While on the ice, all players including goaltenders, shall wear a CSA approved hockey helmet, to which a CSA approved facial protector must be securely attached and not altered in any way. Any alteration to a CSA approved helmet or facial protector automatically destroys the certification. The chin strap of the helmet shall be securely fastened under the chin. The strap of the facial protector shall also be securely fastened to the hockey helmet.

- f) The wearing of a BNQ approved throat protector is compulsory for all players participating in H.S.S.A.A., G.H.A.C. and O.F.S.A.A. hockey competition. Effective the 2001/2002 season, Mouth Guards are compulsory for all players

RULE #28: MINOR PENALTIES

- f) Any player incurring a total of three or more stick infraction penalties during the same game shall be ejected from the game. For the application of this rule, stick infraction penalties are considered to be: High Sticking, Cross Checking, Slashing, Spearing and Butt-Ending.

RULE #30: MAJOR PENALTIES

- a) A Major Penalty, other than fighting, assessed to any player, including a goaltender, shall result in the penalized player being ejected from the game. The penalized player shall be prohibited for dressing for and playing in his team's next scheduled game.
b) Not applicable to H.S.S.A.A. competition.
c) Not applicable to H.S.S.A.A. competition.

RULE #31: MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

- b) Not applicable to H.S.S.A.A. competition.

RULE #33: GROSS MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

- a) Any player or team official incurring a Gross Misconduct Penalty shall be ejected from the remainder of the game and shall be suspended from at least the next league game. A total of ten minutes shall be charged against the record of the penalized player. The Referee shall report the offence and full details of the violation to the H.M.T.
c) Not applicable to H.S.S.A.A. competition.

RULE #43: GOAL JUDGES

Goal Judges shall not be used for H.S.S.A.A. scheduled league games. Goal Judges may be assigned for Playoff and/or Championship Games, at the discretion of the Athletic Convenor.

RULE #44: PENALTY TIMEKEEPER

The Penalty/Game Timekeeper shall be provided by the Home Team.

RULE #45: OFFICIAL SCORER

- c) At the completion of each game, the official scorer shall:

1. Sign the Official Game Sheet.
2. Have the Referees sign the Game Sheet.
3. Provide the Pink Copy to the Visiting Team.
4. Provide the White and Yellow Copies to the Home Team, who shall forward the White Copy to the Athletic Convenor.

RULE #46: GAME TIMEKEEPER

The Game Timekeeper and Penalty Timekeeper shall be one and the same person.

RULE #59: FIGHTING AND ROUGHING

- f) Any player, including a goaltender, incurring a Major Penalty for fighting, shall be ejected from the game and suspended for his/her team's next three scheduled league games. Should a suspension carry over into playoff competition or occurs during playoff competition, the H.M.T. shall assess a one, two or three game suspension, upon review of the case. The Referee shall report the offence and full details of the violation to the H.M.T. If a player from a team that has been virtually eliminated from playoff competition starts a fight, he/she will in effect, receive a lesser penalty than a player whose team would take part in playoff competition. Furthermore, since a playoff game is longer in duration and constitutes a sudden victory series, it should not be equated to a regular season league game. If a player is assessed a second fighting major penalty in the same season, that player will be suspended from his/her team for the remainder of the current season. If a fighting major penalty is assessed in a league or playoff game where one team or player may be eliminated by the result of the game, (A PLAYER LEAVING SCHOOL AT THE END OF SEMESTER I) the team progressing in the playoffs may appeal the suspension of their player if the official has assessed an instigator penalty to the offending player from the eliminated team. Such an appeal shall be dealt with by the H.M.T.

RULE #73: PASSES AND OFF-SIDE PASSES

For H.S.S.A.A. play, the Centre Red Line shall not be used in determining an off-side pass and thus, the following shall apply:

- (b) The legal number of players must be on the ice for each faceoff (to prevent gaining positional advantage after the drop of the puck).

RULE #82: THROWING A STICK

- d) A misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player who deliberately throws a stick or any part thereof or any object outside the playing area.

RULE #83: TIED GAME

For H.S.S.A.A. league play, if at the end of regulation periods, the score is tied, the game shall be considered complete. A single point in the standings shall be awarded to both participating teams. For H.S.S.A.A. playoff and/or Championship games where so specified, if at the end of regulation periods, the score is tied, a three minute break will be followed by consecutive twelve minute stop time sudden-death periods until ten minutes to curfew. If still tied, a five player shootout format will be employed to determine a winner. If still tied, five different players shall compete in the shootout format until a winner is declared. All shootout rounds shall be sudden-victory.

RULE #84: TIME OF GAME

- a) Two twelve minute periods and one fifteen minute period of actual playing time with a ten minute intermission between the second and third periods, will be the time allowed for each scheduled league game. In the case of scheduled double header league games, the ten minute intermissions will take place between the second and third periods of the first game and between the first and second periods of the second game. Curfew for the first game of a scheduled double-header shall be determined by taking the mid-point between the starting time of the first game and the curfew of the second game, subject to local arena scheduling. The first game shall be terminated on the next whistle following the predetermined time, as indicated on the arena clock.

Two twelve minute periods and one fifteen minute period of actual playing time with a ten minute intermission between the second and third periods, will be the time allowed for each Preliminary, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Playoff Series Game. Three fifteen minute periods of actual playing time with a ten minute intermission between each period will be the time allowed for each scheduled playoff/championship game.