

# **RUICCI CUP PLAYOFF BRACKET FORMATS**

Revised August, 2016

## **Four team bracket:**

Teams are seeded 1-4 based on league standings comparing an even number of the most recent games played. Each team plays 3 games round robin, one against each team. The two top teams with the most points play in the final game. There are seven total games in 4-team bracket.

Schedule:            (H)    (V)  
1) 1 vs. 4  
2) 2 vs. 3  
3) 3 vs. 1  
4) 4 vs. 2  
5) 3 vs. 4  
6) 1 vs. 2  
7) Final game – 1<sup>st</sup> place vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> place

## **Five team bracket:**

Teams are seeded 1-5 based on league standings comparing an even number of the most recent games played. Teams play a 2 game preliminary round, and then are seeded 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> based on point totals. There is then one quarterfinal game (4<sup>th</sup> vs. 5<sup>th</sup> place). Then there are two semifinal games (1<sup>st</sup> vs. winner of 4<sup>th</sup> vs. 5<sup>th</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place). The two semifinal winners then play in the Final game. There are nine total games in 5-team bracket.

Schedule:            (H)    (V)  
1) 2 vs. 5  
2) 4 vs. 3  
3) 5 vs. 1  
4) 3 vs. 2  
5) 1 vs. 4  
6) quarter-final    4<sup>th</sup> place vs. 5<sup>th</sup> place  
7) semi-finals      2<sup>nd</sup> place vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
8)                      1<sup>st</sup> place vs. winner of 4<sup>th</sup> vs. 5<sup>th</sup> place  
9) Final game – winners of two semifinal games

## **Six team bracket:**

Teams are seeded 1-6 based on league standings comparing an even number of the most recent games played. Team are divided into two 3-team divisions (teams 1,2,3 in one division, and teams 4,5,6 in the other division). Each team plays the 3 teams in the opposite division for a total of 3 games each. After all of the preliminary games, the two teams with the most points play in the final game. There are 10 total games in the 6-team bracket.

Schedule:            (H)    (V)  
1) 1 vs. 6  
2) 2 vs. 5  
3) 3 vs. 4  
4) 5 vs. 1  
5) 6 vs. 3  
6) 4 vs. 2  
7) 1 vs. 4  
8) 2 vs. 6  
9) 3 vs. 5  
10) Final game – 1<sup>st</sup> place vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> place

### **Seven team bracket:**

Teams are seeded 1-7 based on league standings comparing an even number of the most recent games played. Teams play a 2 game preliminary round, and then are seeded 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> based on point totals. There are then 3 quarterfinal games, (the first place team gets a bye into the semifinals). Then there are two semifinal games, and the winners of these two games then play in the final game. There are 13 total games in the 7-team bracket.

	(H)	(V)
Schedule:	1) 1 vs. 7	
	2) 2 vs. 6	
	3) 3 vs. 5	
	4) 7 vs. 4	
	5) 5 vs. 1	
	6) 4 vs. 2	
	7) 6 vs. 3	
	8) quarter-finals	4 <sup>th</sup> place vs. 5 <sup>th</sup> place
	9)	3 <sup>rd</sup> place vs. 6 <sup>th</sup> place
	10)	2 <sup>nd</sup> place vs. 7 <sup>th</sup> place
	11) semi-finals	1 <sup>st</sup> place vs. (winner of 4 <sup>th</sup> vs. 5 <sup>th</sup> place)
	12)	(winner of 2 <sup>nd</sup> vs. 7 <sup>th</sup> place) vs. (winner of 3 <sup>rd</sup> vs. 6 <sup>th</sup> place)
	13) Final game	- winners of two semi-final games

### **Eight team bracket:**

Teams are seeded 1-8 based on league standings comparing an even number of the most recent games played. Teams are divided into two 4-team divisions (teams 1,3,5,7 in one division, and teams 2,4,6,8 in the other division). Each team plays each other team, in their division, for a total of three games each. After all preliminary games, the two top teams in each division with the most points play in the final game. There are 13 total games in the 8-team bracket.

	(H)	(V)
Schedule:	1) 1 vs. 7	
	2) 3 vs. 5	
	3) 2 vs. 8	
	4) 4 vs. 6	
	5) 5 vs. 1	
	6) 7 vs. 3	
	7) 6 vs. 2	
	8) 8 vs. 4	
	9) 1 vs. 3	
	10) 5 vs. 7	
	11) 2 vs. 4	
	12) 6 vs. 8	
	13) Final game	– 1 <sup>st</sup> place (div. 1) vs. 1 <sup>st</sup> place (div. 2)

## **Tie Breakers & Seeding teams rules :**

### **Seeding teams for placement in brackets:**

Teams are seeded based on the total number of points earned during the regular season using the score sheets from a comparable number of the most recent games played (as of and including the weekend on which March 1<sup>st</sup> falls) as follows:

Two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss. In the event of a tie in the standings at the end of the regular season, the following procedure will be applied:

1. Head to head points earned
2. Goals for (GF) minus goals against (GA)
3. Most goals for (GF)
4. Fewest goals against (GA)
5. Fewest penalty minutes (PIM)

### **Playoff game tie-breaker rules:**

After the preliminary and round robin games within each division, teams will be re-seeded based on total number of points earned: Two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss. In the event of a tie in the standings at the end of the preliminary rounds, the following procedure will be applied:

Head to head points earned (use only if two teams involved in tie breaker)

Use games played between the teams tied until one rule breaks the tie between **all** teams involved in the tie breaker (i.e. team a and b are tied, use stats from game between team a and b, OR team a, b, and c are tied, use stats from games between team a, b and c):

- Goals for (GF) minus goals against (GA)
- Most goals for (GF)
- Fewest goals against (GA)

Use all the games played by the teams tied until one rule breaks the tie between **all** teams involved in tie breaker:

- Goals for (GF) minus goals against (GA)
- Most goals for (GF)
- Fewest goals against (GA)
- Fewest penalty minutes (PIM)
- Earliest goal scored from any round robin game