

TOURNAMENT RULES



1) All USA Hockey rules will apply except as modified below.

2) All teams and players must be registered with USA Hockey and birth certificates must be verified with the signed USA Hockey roster. All players must adhere to USA Hockey equipment requirements which include mouth guards to be worn.

3) **Sportsmanship:** Fighting, abusive behavior or unsportsmanlike-like conduct by players, team officials or spectators will not be tolerated, either on or off the ice. This will be grounds for removal from the tournament and from the property of Richland Rangers Hockey Arena. The referees shall have the option of ending any game should they feel that the players or the officials are in danger. In such a case, the Tournament Director or representative and/or on-ice officials will determine the outcome of the game.

4) **Rink and facilities:** Should any player or players, team or spectator damage any property within Richland Rangers Hockey Arena, they will be responsible for all costs associated with repair or replacement. Such behavior will also be grounds for dismissal from the tournament and the property of Richland Rangers Hockey Arena.

6) **Length of Games:** Games will start with a 5-minute warm-up. There will be a one-minute break between each period.

Games - Game times will be three 15-minute periods. In the 3rd period, we will go to run time if a team is leading by 5 goals or more (a run clock will be in effect until the differential is less than 4 goals).

*Tournament Director can adjust length of games as needed to stay on schedule.

7) **Time-Outs:** A maximum of one 1-minute time-out per team will be allowed in any game. A time-out can only be called during a stoppage of play.

8) **Penalties:** During run time and stop time, penalties will remain of the duration prescribed by USA Hockey. A player having five penalties in a game will be ejected. Any player assessed a gross major penalty will be ejected from the tournament.

9) **Protests** - The Tournament Director or Representatives will be present for all questions or inquiries. The Tournament Director or Representatives will uphold all on-ice officiating.

10) **Seeded Positions:** Seed positions will be posted within 30 minutes after the completion of the last game on Saturday. It is the responsibility of each coach to determine what time his/her team plays. Positions will be determined based on Saturday play as follows:

- a. Three points for a shutout win, two points for a win, one point for a tie and zero points for a loss.
- b. In the event of a tie for seed position, the tie-breaker will be: 1) head to head games 2) Goals against 3) Goals for (maximum of 5 differential per game) 4) Coin Flip.

11) **Tie games in Brackets** will be decided by a three-player shootout having the players shoot alternatively (the visiting team will begin the shootout). During a shootout, no player may shoot more than once until all players from the bench are used. If the game is still tied after three shooters, coaches can add two new shooters for a five game shootout. If still tied the team with the least amount of penalties will be awarded the win. If still tied the final deciding factor will be a coin flip called by the home team.

12) Scoreboard will reflect a maximum goal differential of five (5) goals. Official score sheets will reflect the actual score.

Squirt Tournament ONLY

13) **"Candy Cane" Shootout** - These will take place between the 2nd and 3rd periods of the 2nd set of Saturday games. This will be a five-player shootout having the players shoot alternatively (the visiting team will begin the shootout). If the shootout is still tied after five shooters, each team will alternate additional shooters until the tie is broken. During a shootout, no player may shoot more than once until all players from the bench are used (goalies optional). In addition, throughout the tournament teams need to use their entire bench before rotating through again (i.e. all players must have had one turn before any player takes a 2nd turn, then every player must have two turns before any player takes a 3rd turn etc. throughout the shootouts). The winning team is awarded a team prize to share. Yep, they will involve candy canes.

14) An **"MVP"** and **"Hardest Worker"** from each team will be announced after each game. We would like to get as much team feedback as we can and let the skaters on the opposing team help the coaches with this decision. It is an amazing feeling to receive an award from your peers!