

**PLAYOFF RULES – 2018**  
**As of February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018**

**GAME START TIMES**

- 1) TBMHA By-Laws govern games shortened by injuries, rink technical problems, etc.
- 2) Teams take the ice at the scheduled game start time after the first game finishes.
- 3) For the second game, teams take the ice immediately after both teams of the first game leave the ice.
- 4) The second game will not start earlier than ten minutes before its scheduled start time.

**GAMES END IN CURFEW**

- 1) If regulation play (three full periods) is not completed within the allotted ice rental time, regulation time ends by curfew.
- 2) **No time outs are allowed in Quarter or Semi Finals.**
- 3) **Time outs are permitted in all Championship final games in all divisions.**
- 4) **Time outs will be 30 seconds in length.**

**GAME WINNER**

- 1) The team with the most goals at the end of regulation time is declared the winner.
- 2) Ties at the end of regulation time (played or curfewed) are decided in overtime.
- 3) If the game is tied at end of overtime, the game remains tied and will be replayed in its entirety at a later date.

**OVERTIME PERIOD (Tie-Breaker Rules)**

- 1) The overtime period is ten (10) minutes of stop time play with three-on-three hockey (plus a goalie).
- 2) The game ends when the first team to score in overtime is declared the winner.
- 3) In overtime no team will play with less than three players, ie. Three skaters plus a goalie.
- 4) In overtime only one player serves a penalty at a time. Other players' penalties are delayed. The first penalized player cannot leave the penalty box until all penalties are served, or at a stoppage in play.
- 5) Teams may substitute a skater for their goalie at any time, as per Hockey Canada rules.
- 6) Player substitutions are only allowed "on the fly", not during a stoppage in play. A delay of game penalty may be assessed for teams that abuse this rule.
- 7) **EXCEPTION:** If a team is called for icing the puck, that team's players must return to the face-off in their defensive end. However, the opposing team may make a line change during the stoppage in play due to the icing call before they return to the face-off.
- 8) A one minute rest is allowed between the end of the third period and start of overtime.
- 9) The teams switch ends and may change lines before the start of the overtime period.
- 10) Penalized players may not leave the penalty box to join their team during the rest period.

**The referee will warn both benches before overtime starts regarding changing "on the fly" only, not during a stoppage in play. A delay of game penalty will be assessed for teams that abuse this rule.**

## GAME SITUATIONS - 2018

### GAME STARTS

1. Games are scheduled to start “on the hour or half hour”, but a flood typically precedes the first game. However, no rental prior to our ice rental means the ice is ready for an immediate start. Officials and teams must be ready for an early start.
2. When first games go smoothly and end early, the second game will start up to ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start time.
3. Coaches/teams are not allowed to negotiate a special circumstance for their games.

### FOUR MINUTE WARM-UPS

1. The four (4) minute warm-up starts when the first player of the second team gets on the ice, or ninety (90) seconds after the first player of the first team is on the ice, whichever occurs first.
2. For the second game at Delaney only, the visitors’ warm-up starts ninety (90) seconds after the visiting team of the first game leaves the ice, or when the oncoming visitors’ first player steps on the ice, whichever occurs first. The home team is deemed closer, and therefore, must be on the ice ready to start.

### GAME CURFEWS

1. Playoff games have five extra minutes to finish three periods of regulation time, but playing circumstances may still prevent games from finishing. Timekeepers will curfew games if necessary.
2. Team staff must respect the limitations of our ice rentals, and explain this to their fans/parents rather than criticize the timekeepers. What happens on the ice determines whether a game will finish or not.
3. The ice rental time is governed only by the arena clock and the second game will be buzzed at the end of our ice rental.
4. While the ice is resurfaced between periods, teams should confirm with the timekeeper when the third period might curfew if things go awry.

### PENALTIES DURING OVERTIME

1. When a team is penalized during overtime, the penalized player is placed in the penalty box, and play resumes **Four-on-three** (plus goalies).
2. In the case of two penalties to one team, the game would be **four on three** until the last penalty is served. The first player returns to the ice only at the next stoppage in play, or when the final penalty expires. The other player(s) must wait for a stoppage in play if the game is now three-on-three.
3. Teams that attempt to illegally change players at a stoppage of play may be assessed a delay in game penalty.

### THIRD PERIOD PENALTY CARRY-OVERS

1. At the end of regulation play, if a player is serving a penalty, the overtime period will start with **Four-on-Three** until the penalized player returns to the ice.
2. For a carry-over of two penalties, the second player’s penalty will not commence during overtime until the first player’s penalty expires. Only one penalty is served during overtime.

## **PLAYOFF FORMAT and ICE RENTAL TIME MANAGEMENT – 2018**

### **PLAYOFF FORMAT**

1. Quarter-Final (QF) series are “best of three games”.
2. Semi-Final (SF) series are “best of five games”.
3. Championship Final (CF) series are “best of five games”.
4. If a sixth game is necessary (four in quarter-finals), that game must end with a winner. Additional overtime periods will be played until a winner is determined.
5. Midget AA and Bantam AA: top four teams make the playoffs.
6. **Bantam A: top eight teams make the playoffs.**
7. **Midget A1 Top 4 teams make the playoffs.**
8. **Midget A2 playoffs will be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place gets a bye, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team waits for the winner of a one game playoff between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place teams.**
9. **There will be NO time outs in the one game playoff in the Midget A2 division.**
10. The highest seeded team is home for the first game, and home status alternates thereafter.

### **ICE RENTAL TIME MANAGEMENT**

1. The time keeper is responsible to properly use the ice rental period.
2. The time keeper records the start of the first game when the warm-up starts.
3. Total time from start of the four minute warm-up to game curfew is ninety (90) minutes.
4. A flood occurs before the start of the ice rental.
5. The first game's flood occurs between the second and third periods.
6. The second game's flood occurs between the first and second periods.
7. CF games are scheduled in two hour rentals, and receive a flood prior to the start of the each game, and again between the second and third periods.
8. The victor in the final CF game is allowed five minutes of celebration time.
9. The timing rules must be applied consistently, whether a single or back-to-back games. Fairness to all teams is crucial.
10. For back-to-back games, timekeepers must note when the first game ends, and the second game starts. The delayed start time of the second game is taken into account if additional ice rental time needs to be added.

### **EXTENDED ICE RENTALS FOR EXTRA GAME ICE**

1. Longer ice rentals are utilized to allow most games to finish three periods of regulation play (three periods), and to play an overtime period if necessary.
2. Two QF and/or SF games are scheduled in a 3-1/2 hour rental.
3. A CF game has a 2 hour rental.
4. An agreement with the FWFN Arena allows TBMHA to extend our games, delaying the start of the next rental. However the additional time should not exceed an extra thirty (30) minutes (which is what we have at City operated arenas).
5. The extra time may be insufficient to finish regulation time due to injuries, high scores, too many penalties, and team delaying tactics. The games must then be curfewed to leave extra time for an overtime period.
6. Additional ice rented for the playoff games provides five additional minutes of real time to finish regulation play for any game.
7. Regulation time ends after the extra five minutes regardless of the game situation.