



**2023-2024**  
**DISTRICT AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**TOURNAMENT GUIDEBOOK**



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## SECTION 2

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### Rules and Regulations for the District Championship Tournament

## DISTRICT RULES AND REGULATIONS

The District Championship Tournaments shall be under the supervision and control of the State Playoff Committee who shall be the final authority.

## DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

### A. NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER

1. Each Association and independent team must notify their District Council in writing of their intent to enter the District Championship Tournament by November 1 and December 15th for the JV Division. Midget AA teams must submit the intent to enter for the State Championship Tournament by September 1.
2. Each team in the Youth Tier I Category must signify their intention of entering the State Championship Tournament no later than November 1st to the Chairman of the State Playoff Committee, by completing the online registration at MAHA.org by November 1st. By registering online, the team commits to participating in States and Nationals if the team is a National bound Classification team.
3. Girls' teams must signify their intention of entering the State Championship Tournament by completing the online registration at MAHA.org by November 1st. By registering online, the team commits to participating in States and Nationals if the team is a National bound Classification team.
4. If a team which has committed to enter the District Championship Tournament fails to participate in those playoffs, the team officials shall be suspended for a maximum of one year by the State Playoff Committee.

### B. DATES

District Championship Tournaments must be completed by the deadline set by the State Playoff Committee or no later than the 3rd Sunday in February and notification of winners for each Classification are entered online accordingly.

### C. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

1. The District Tournament Director shall be appointed by the respective District Chairperson.
2. Under the supervision of the State Playoff Committee, the District Championship Tournament Director is in charge of all phases of the District Tournament, exclusive of playing Rules.
3. Insures that the onsite District representatives and each team has a printed concise set of rules.
4. Insures that a District Director is onsite at each District Championship Tournament game.

### D. SUBSTITUTE GOALKEEPERS

A team may pick up a substitute goalie from within its own Association or District if it does not already have a second goalie registered. For non-National bound categories, the substitute goalie must be registered in the current season on a team of equal or lower age Classification and equal or lower team Classification. For the National bound category, the substitute goalie must be registered on a lower Classification team.

MAHA Substitute Goalie Chart

Age Classification	Classification	Division	Category	Substitute Goalie Option (Must be the same or lower than shown below)
	YOUTH NATIONAL BOUND			
17 & 18	18U	AAA	Tier I	16U
17 & 18	18U	AAA	Tier II	16U
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier I	15 Only or 14U
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier II	15 Only or 14U
15 Only	15 Only	AAA	Tier I	15 Year old Only Tier I
13 & 14	14U	AAA	Tier I	14U
13 Only	13 Only	AAA	Tier I	13 year old only Tier I
13 & 14	14U	AA	Tier II	14U
	TRAVEL TEAMS NON-NATIONAL BOUND			
13 & 14	13U	A	Travel	12U
11 & 12	12U	AAA	Tier I	12U
11 & 12	12U	AA	Tier II	12U AA
11 & 12	12U	A	Travel	12U A
9 & 10	10U	AAA	Tier I	10U
9 & 10	10U	AA	Tier II	10UAA
9 & 10	10U	A	Travel	10UA
7 & 8	8U			8U
	YOUTH NON-NATIONAL BOUND			
17 & 18	18U	BB	Tier III	Any BB team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
15 & 16	16U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
13 & 14	14U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
11 & 12	12U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
	GIRLS' NATIONAL BOUND			
17, 18, & 19	18U	AAA	Tier I	16U
17, 18, & 19	18U	AA	Tier II	16U
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier I	14U
15 & 16	16U	AA	Tier II	14U
13 & 14	14U	AAA	Tier I	14U
13 & 14	14U	AA	Tier II	14U

Age Classification	Classification	Division	Category	Substitute Goalie Option (Must be the same or lower than shown below)
	GIRLS' TRAVEL NON- NATIONAL BOUND			
11 & 12	12U	AAA	Tier I	12U
11 & 12	12U	AA	Tier II	12U AA
9 & 10	10U	AA	Travel	10UAA
9 & 10	10U	A	Tier III	10U B
7 & 8	8U			8U
	GIRLS' NON- NATIONAL BOUND			
17, 18 & 19	18U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
15 & 16	16U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
13 & 14	14U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
11 & 12	12U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA

#### E. PLAYING RULES

The official USA Hockey playing rules shall be used. No protests shall be permitted on the playing rules.

#### F. TIME BETWEEN GAMES

In all the District Championship Tournaments held in Michigan, the number of games played by any player or team on one day shall not be more than two (2), with a minimum of four (4) hours between the finish of the first game and the start of the second, and twelve (12) hours between games played on consecutive days.

#### G. UNIFORM COLORS

1. The home team shall wear light/white jerseys. The visiting team shall wear dark/colored jerseys in all games. All disputes will be handled by the District Championship Tournament Director.
2. Each team entered in the District Championship Tournament must be fully uniformed with all players having jerseys of the same color. All players must have a number.

#### H. FORFEITS

- (a) Any team which fails to appear for a scheduled game of the District Championship Tournament shall:
  1. Forfeit all of its District Championship Tournament games.
  2. Pay for all expenses, including, but not limited to all referees' fees and all ice costs for each forfeited game.
  3. The head coach shall be suspended for a maximum of one year.
- (b) The District Council may impose further penalties within its discretion. In the event of exceptional circumstances, the forfeit(s) may be appealed to the State Playoff Committee Chairperson and two other members of the MAHA Board of Directors, and the game(s) may be ordered replayed if the appeal is upheld.

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## **SECTION 3**

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### Rules and Regulations for State Championship Tournaments

- All State Championship Tournaments need to be competed by the date set by the State Playoff Committee.
- Make sure that the onsite District representative(s) and each team has the State Championship Tournament printed set of rules before the playoffs begin. Reference the online information prepared for each team on the Information for Entrant page (MAHA.org; then Tournaments; State Playoffs). MAHA representatives and local host chairpersons should meet prior to the start of the playoffs to discuss any questions that they may have regarding rules and procedures.

### C. PAIRINGS

#### Formula for State Playoff Pairing (8 Teams)

	National Division	American Division
2024 Districts	1, 2, 6, 8	3, 4, 5, 7

- Tier 1 Youth tournaments will be seeded by the MAHA Home/Away Game Series.
- Tier 1 Girls' tournaments will be seeded by the MAHA Home/Away Game Series.
- All Youth Tier II tournaments will be seeded by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.
- All Tier II and Tier III Girls' tournaments are seeded based on the league record in the MGHL. For those teams not in the MGHL, the win loss record will be used to seed. Seeding will be done by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.
- Non-Varsity High School Division 1 and Division 2 will be seeded by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.

Note: District 1 is filled by the host team.

If there are less than eight (8) teams entered, the State Playoff Committee will determine the pairings.

### D. SUBSTITUTE GOALKEEPERS

1. A team may pick up a substitute goalie from within its own Association or District if it does not already have a second goalie registered. For non-National bound categories, the substitute goalie must be registered in the current season on a team of equal or lower age Classification and equal or lower team Classification. For National bound categories, the substitute goalie must be registered on a lower Classification team.
2. A substitute goalie, under such circumstances, may be used only in case of injury or illness to the regular goalie. Please refer to MAHA Substitute Goalie Chart on Page 10 & 11 under Rules and Regulations for District Playoffs
3. For all National bound State Championship Tournaments, there are no substitute goalies allowed.

### E. PLAYING RULES

The official USA Hockey playing rules shall be used. No protests shall be permitted on the playing rules.

### G. UNIFORM COLORS

1. The home team shall wear light/white jerseys. The visiting team shall wear dark/colored jerseys in all games. All disputes will be handled by the State Championship Tournament Director.
2. Each team entered in the State Championship Tournament must be fully uniformed with all players having jerseys of the same color. All players must have a number.