



SCHL PLAYOFF GAME PROTOCOLS 2023-2024

The following rules will apply to all teams participating in the SCHL playoffs:

ALL GAMES WILL BE PLAYED PER USA HOCKEY RULES

All teams must have stickers for the scoresheet

SCHL will send each program a list of approved players for playoffs. Only these players are eligible to participate. If a non-approved player participates, it is an automatic forfeit.

Game Procedure:

- 1) Warm-up: 3 minutes (begins when Zamboni driver closes door)
- 2) Period Lengths: same as regular season
 - a. U12A / U14A / U14B:
 - i. All games will be played as 3 – 15-minute stop-time periods
 - b. U8A / U10A / U10B / U10C / U12B / U12C
 - i. All games will be played as 3 – 12-minute stop-time periods
- 3) Games will switch to running time if there is a goal differential of 6 or more
 - a. Running time will not stop until the goal differential is 4 or less
- 4) Penalty Lengths: same as regular season
 - a. U12A / U14A / U14B:
 - i. Minor: 1.5 minutes
 - ii. Major: 4 minutes
 - iii. Misconduct: 8 minutes
 - b. U8A / U10A / U10B / U10C / U12B / U12C
 - i. Minor: 1 minute
 - ii. Major: 3 minutes
 - iii. Misconduct: 6 minutes

- 5) Each team will have 1 timeout per game. Teams do not receive an additional timeout if the game goes into overtime
- 6) In the event of a tie game at the end of regulation, there will be a sudden death overtime period as follows:
 - a. One 5-minute stop-time sudden death period – 3-on-3; free substitution

If the game is still tied at the end of the overtime period, then:

- b. Shootout (5 rounds)
 - a. The home team (higher seed) chooses if they would like to shoot first or second. Once the order has been decided, it will stay this order for the entire shootout
 - b. If no winner is declared after 5 rounds, all following rounds will be sudden death until there is a winner (similar to NHL)
 - c. The same player cannot shoot twice in the first 5 rounds of the shootout. If still tied after the 5th round, teams may repeat shooters
- 7) Penalties will carry over from regulation to overtime, and from overtime to a shootout
 - a. If a player is still serving a penalty at the end of the overtime period, that player is not eligible to participate in the shootout
 - b. No team will play with less than three players in overtime. If there are penalties in the 3-on-3 overtime, the non-penalized team will add a player making it 4-on-3. When the penalty expires, the penalized player will exit the penalty box and play will continue as 4-on-4 until the next stoppage, where the teams will reset to 3-on-3.

These guidelines are to be followed as listed on September 1, 2023