



**USA Hockey
Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey
Association Youth/Girls Tournaments
Rules and Regulations**

TIER II ♦ YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Feb 21st-22nd, 2026

Maryland: Rockville

Virginia: Reston, Ion

Tier II ♦ GIRLS' TOURNAMENT

Feb 6th – 8th, 2026

Laurel

2026 TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIPS



2026
Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey
Association
State/Affiliate Tournaments

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Welcome to the PVAHA Youth States & Girls Affiliate Tournaments

Girls' Tier II ♦
The Gardens Ice House
Feb 6th – 8th, 2026

Youth Tier II
Maryland: Rockville Ice Arena
Virginia: Skate Quest, Ion
Feb 21st-22nd, 2026

Congratulations on reaching the USA Hockey Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association State/Affiliate Tournament. The PVAHA tournament committee is very excited and committed to hosting an exceptional tournament for Youth and Girls Tier II that will be remembered by all in the years ahead. Enclosed is the tournament handbook, for your convenience. It is necessary that each team complete certain preliminary procedures so that the tournament may operate as efficiently as possible. Detailed information concerning these procedures is found in this handbook. Please study this information and the Rules and Regulations very carefully prior to your arrival at the tournament. It is vital that necessary registration forms be completed according to the schedule indicated in the document "Important Dates to Remember."

Youth Tier II and Girls' Tier II Teams: Once your team has qualified to participate in the PVAHA State Championships, please do the following:

- 1) Contact the appropriate Maryland or Virginia USA Hockey Registrar to arrange to complete the USA Hockey required Credentials (within 24 hours)
- 2) Fill Out the Team Contact form on the PVAHA web site (after Credentials completion)
- 3) Email your latest USA Hockey 1-T Roster, your completed 1-C Credentials Verification Sheet and Your Team Contact Sheet to the appropriate State/Girls Tournament Directors (at least 48 hours prior to the start of the tournament-see page 4 for their email addresses)

The information in this package will assist you in making your plans for this tournament. It is very important you read and adhere to the guidelines and timeframes to assure a smooth-running tournament and a positive experience for everyone.

Thank you for your help in assuring the success of your tournament. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate tournament chairman listed in this handbook.

PVAHA Youth States and Girls Affiliate Tournament Committee

SE District Rep: Linda Jondo ljondo.pvaha@gmail.com

Tournament Chair: Bud Buonato budbuonato.pvaha@gmail.com

Tournament Directors

Maryland: Bud Buonato budbuonato.pvaha@gmail.com

Bob Otte bobotte123@gmail.com

Virginia: Brad Surdam Jr bsurdam@medstarcapitalsiceplex.com
Kevin Burch kburch.raiders@gmail.com

Girls: Pat Wildman patwildman.raiders@gmail.com
Paul Duquette pvaha.registrar@gmail.com

Discipline Committee: Bill Schmidt cbhldiscipline@aol.com
MD Directors
VA Directors
Girls Directors

USA Hockey Registrars

Maryland: Paul Duquette Paul.Duquette@usahockey.org

Virginia: Beth Lenz Beth.Lenz@usahockey.org

COACHES AND MANAGERS INFORMATION

Player Eligibility

All players must be registered with USA Hockey and certified to a USA Hockey Team Roster (1-T) on or before December 31 of the current playing season to be eligible for the PVAHA Youth Tier II State and Girls Tier II Affiliate Championship Tournaments.

Players who are citizens of another country and residing with a parent shall be considered eligible if the parent(s) hold one of the following legal documents: Alien Registration Receipt Card, Permanent Resident Card or if the parent(s) holds a non-immigrant temporary visa.

Players who are citizens of another country and are in the U.S. without a parent must hold an Alien Registration Receipt Card, Permanent Resident Card or an F. Academic Student Classification visa or J. Exchange Alien visa.

Credentials

The credentials review process includes mandatory pre-certification of credentials by the appropriate state USA Hockey Associate Registrars and a final verification of credentials by the Tournament Directors prior to the start of the PVAHA States and Girls Affiliate Championship Tournaments.

All teams must provide copies of required documentation for credentials to the USA Hockey Associate Registrar for their State within 24 hours of qualification for the tournament. Credential requirements for teams participating in USA Hockey National Championships and State Playoffs can be found in the current USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook: Credential Requirements of Teams for Districts and Nationals. A representative from the team should contact the appropriate USA Hockey Associate Registrar to plan for a pre-certification review, in person or barring that, to have the required documentation for credentials delivered to the Associate Registrar.

In addition, teams are required to email the 1-C credentials form and the teams official 1-T USA Hockey Roster to the appropriate State Tournament Director. **Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and/or forfeiture of games for the team.**

USA Hockey Associate Registrars

PVAHA (MD, DC)

Paul Duquette

Paul.Duquette@usahockey.org

PVAHA (VA)

Beth Lenz

Beth.Lenz@usahockey.org

All questions raised during the credentials process must be resolved prior to the start of that team's first game. Any errors or omissions not previously resolved by the Associate Registrar will be clarified by the appropriate State/Girls Tournament Directors

Each team is required to furnish the following items to the appropriate PVAHA Registrar:

(See the current USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook: Credential Requirements of Teams for Districts and Nationals.)

- (a) A verification and affirmation that a review of each player's birth certificate has been completed by a district registrar or his/her designee. When no verification and affirmation is provided, a copy of government-issued birth certificate, verification of birth or copy of a passport identification page for

each rostered player is required. **Birth certificates are not required for players shown as verified on the official roster (Form 1-T) or the credentials verification report (Form 1-C).**

- (b) USA Hockey Waiver and Release completed for each registered participant and team manager. **(Not required for participants who have registered online at usahockey.com).**
- (c) Sanctioned game scoresheets to verify compliance with 10/20 for Youth teams, 10/14 for Girls' teams, minimum number of games for eligibility rule for each team and rostered player.
- (d) USA Hockey Consent to Treat Form for each rostered player, coach, and team manager.
- (e) Coaching credentials for each coach at the level mandated by USA Hockey as shown on the official roster (Form 1-T), credentials verification report (Form 1-C) or required registration and coaching credentials generated through registration software, **whichever demonstrates the most complete and current information.**
- (f) Non-U.S. citizens must meet proof of resident status eligibility and transfer from home country federation (if required) as stated above under Player Eligibility. **The player is not eligible to play any games prior to the completion of the transfer as shown on the Official 1-T USA Hockey Roster.**
- (g) Other documents pertinent to team activities and player eligibility.

Coaching Requirements

All coaches must have current USA Hockey certification and the corresponding online age-specific module to participate in PVAHA Tournaments. Additionally, all coaches must be SafeSport verified and have completed a background screening in accordance with the PVAHA background screening policy. All coaches are expected and required to follow all USA Hockey rules, including the helmet rule, during all pre-tournament and tournament events. A complete listing of the coaching education levels and requirements can be found in the current version of the USA Hockey Annual Guide, Coaching Education Program, Coaching Education Program Requirements.

All problems with Coaching Education Program certification must be settled with the local Association Coaching Program Director prior to your arrival at the Youth or Girls Tier State/Affiliate Tournament.

Discipline

The tournament will follow the Discipline Procedures in the USA Hockey 2024-25 & 2025-26 Districts and Nationals Tournament Guidebook.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please review the PVAHA State Tournament Rules and Regulations Section 7 and the USA Hockey 2024-25 & 2025-26 Districts and Nationals Tournament Guidebook very carefully prior to your arrival at the tournament.

1. Teams will play a round robin prior to the Championship game
2. Teams will be seeded based on their designated PVAHA State games played during the CBHL regular season
3. Four teams: The first and second teams shall have two Home games and the third and fourth seeds shall have one home game. The fourth seed shall be Home to the first seed and in all other games the higher seed shall be the Home team.
4. Three teams: Each team will have one Home game as follows - The third seed shall be Home to the first seed and in all other games the higher seed shall be the Home team.
5. Two Teams: Teams will play best 2 of 3 games. The higher ranked team will be Home for the first game and if necessary the third game. Overtime will be sudden death 5 on 5 for 5 minutes for all games. The teams shall change ends to start the OT. If the score remains tied at the end of the 5-minute sudden-death OT, there shall be a shootout. (See SHOOTOUT Procedure below).

Game Protocol

All games will be scored by filling out a scoresheet,, to be provided at game time, and then entering the data into the PVAHA Game Sheet. Shots on goal will be entered on the scoresheet and in GameSheet but will not be put up on the clock score board. The PVAHA will provide iPads preloaded with Game Sheet and the appropriate game. The Home team is responsible for filling in the scoresheet and then immediately entering the data into Game Sheet. The Away team is responsible for the clock.

Upon arrival at the rink, head coaches will obtain the iPad preloaded with their game and will review and sign their respective rosters. Once both head coaches have signed, the PVAHA rep will deliver the iPad to the scorers table. Upon completion of the game, the referees will sign the game in GameSheet and the score keeper will return the scoresheet and the iPad to the PVAHA rep. **The Manager will not upload the game.** The PVAHA rep will compare the scoresheet and the GameSheet entries and will then upload the game.

State Playoffs – Youth and Girls’ Tier II

Class	Warmup	Period	Round Robin Overtime	Championship Overtime*	Penalties
14U	5	16	5 (3-on-3)	10 (5-on-5)	1.5/4/8
16U	5	17	5 (3-on-3)	10 (5-on-5)	2/5/10
18U/19U	5	17	5 (3-on-3)	10 (5-on-5)	2/5/10

**If less than 30 minutes remain in the ice slot at the start of overtime, then 10 minutes will be reduced to 5 minutes.*

Each team is permitted one time-out of 60 seconds, whether in regulation or overtime, per the USA Hockey Playing Rules.

For 14U, 16U, 18U, 19U games ice cut before game and after the second period. Ice cut after second period may be waived by the Tournament Director or the assigned PVAHA representative if there is not sufficient time left in the ice slot.

All warm-ups (5:00), timeouts (1:00), and intermissions shall be placed on the clock. Put 12:00 minutes on the clock for the ice cut between the second and third periods and 2-minute rest period before overtime.

TIED GAMES-ROUND ROBIN GAMES

- If the game is tied following regulation play, one (1) 5-minute, sudden-death OT period shall be played. The teams shall change ends. OT shall be played 3-on-3 (three skaters plus a goalkeeper).
- If the score remains tied at the end of the 5-minute sudden-death OT, there shall be a shootout. (See SHOOTOUT Procedure below).

TIED GAMES-CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- If the game is tied following regulation play, one 10-minute, sudden-death OT period shall be played. The teams shall change ends. **If less than 30 minutes remain at the start of overtime, then 10 minutes will be reduced to 5 minutes.*
- OT shall be played 5-on-5 (five skaters plus a goalkeeper).
- If the score remains tied at the end of sudden-death OT, there shall be a shootout. (See SHOOTOUT Procedure below).

SHOOTOUT PROCEDURE (FOR ALL GAME TYPES)

- The home team shall have the choice whether his/her team will shoot first or second.
- All goalkeepers and all players from both teams listed on the official game sheet shall be eligible to participate in the shootout.
- The goalkeepers will defend the net they were defending in the 3rd period. The goalkeepers from each team may be changed after each shot. Any penalized player whose penalty had not been completed when the overtime period ended or who receives a penalty during a shootout procedure is not eligible to participate in any portion of the shootout procedure(s) and must remain in the penalty box.
- The shootout procedure shall begin with three (3) different individual shooters from each team taking alternate shots. The players do not need to be named beforehand.
- If after the shootout, the shootout score is still tied, there will be a sudden-death shootout.
- A sudden-death shootout is defined as each team attempting a shot. Should one team be successful and the other team not, the successful team shall win the shootout.
- Teams will select their shooters to participate in any order in the sudden death shootout, whether or not they shot in the previous round. The last player in the first round of the shootout may be the first player in the sudden death shootout.
- Players in a sudden death shootout shall not be allowed to take another shot until 2 different individual teammates have completed their attempts.

Appendix A

Will be added before the final copy. I need to find/create one with all the right stuff.