2020 JWHL Challenge Cup
RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. USA Hockey Rules will govern all play. There will be no deviation from USA Hockey Rules. All teams must be properly registered with USA Hockey or Hockey Canada.

2. All players must have legal equipment according to the country in which they are registered (neck guards are required for Canadian teams, and mouth guards are required for US teams).

3. All teams are required to be ready to play 15 minutes prior to scheduled game time. A minor penalty for protocol violation will be assessed to any team that is not ready to play immediately after the 3-minute warm-up period.

4. Teams may dress a maximum of 20 players for each game with no more than 18 being skaters. Players may only be rostered on one team.

5. All games will consist of:
   a. A 3-minute warm-up period, which will begin as soon as the Zamboni doors close following ice resurfacing.
   b. Three periods, each consisting of 17 minutes of stop-time play for U19 and U16 Divisions, and 15 minutes of stop-time play for the U14 Division.
   c. Ice will be resurfaced prior to each game and at the conclusion of the 2nd period of play TIME PERMITTING.
   d. Running time will commence immediately when a 5-goal differential occurs at any point in any game.

6. The home team is listed first. Home team shall wear light colored jerseys.
7. Playoffs and Consolation Games
   a. U14 Division:
      i. The top 4 teams will advance to the Semifinals. The winner of each Semifinal game will play in the Championship game.
      ii. The remaining teams will play in consolation games.
      iii. All teams are guaranteed 5 games.
   b. U16 Division:
      i. The top 2 teams in each group will advance to the Quarterfinals. Quarterfinal winners will advance to semifinals. The winner of each Semifinal game will play in the Championship game.
      ii. The remaining teams will play consolation games.
      iii. All teams are guaranteed 5 games.
   c. U19 Division:
      i. The top 2 teams in each group following the Preliminary Round will advance to the ‘A’ Quarterfinals. Seeding based on points as described in Sections 8 and 9 below. Championship team in the A group will receive a banner.
      ii. The 3rd and 4th place team in each group will advance to the ‘B’ Quarterfinals.
      iii. The 5th place team in each group will play 2 consolation games.
      iv. All teams are guaranteed 5 games.

8. During preliminary round play, teams will earn 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and no points for a loss. For tiebreaker purposes only, teams will also earn 1 point for each period won and ½ point for each period tied.

9. Teams moving on to the playoff round will be determined based upon the total number of points (excluding points per period) earned in preliminary round play. If two teams are tied for points (excluding points per period) after preliminary round play, the tie will be broken as follows:
   a. First, the head to head result between tied teams
   b. Second, total number of points (including game and period points) earned in preliminary round play
   c. Third, the differential between goals for and goals against
   d. Fourth, by dividing goals for by goals against, and
   e. Finally, by the flip of a coin.

10. Ties during a playoff or Championship game will be broken with a three-minute sudden death overtime period played THREE ON THREE. If a tie remains at the end of the overtime period, it will be broken with a shootout in the following manner:
a. Three (3) players from each team shall alternate shots with the home team shooting first. The team with the most goals wins the game. All skaters are eligible to participate in the shootout unless they are serving a penalty.
b. If a tie remains after the first 3 shooters have shot, one additional player from each team will shoot with the home team going first. If one team scores and the other does not, the scoring team wins.
c. If a tie remains, repeat rule 10.b until a winner is declared.
d. No player may shoot again until everyone who is eligible has shot. For example, if team A has only 15 shooters, team B may start with shooter 1 after their 15th shooter has shot.

11. Referees will be allowed to forfeit the game when a team is guilty of misconduct. Any team that forfeits a game will be ineligible for semifinal or final play. If a team forfeits any game, that team’s games will not be counted in determining any points in round robin play or in any tiebreaker.

12. Fighting will not be tolerated. Referees will be instructed to eject any players engaged in fighting. Players ejected for fighting will be ejected from the Challenge Cup. Teams that are involved in a fight will not be invited to future Challenge Cups – this includes JWHL and non-JWHL teams.

13. Penalties shall be served as follows:
   • Minor Penalty: 2 minutes
   • Major Penalty: 5 minutes
   • Misconduct: 10 minutes
   • Game Misconduct: Ejection plus 1 game
   • Second Game Misconduct: Ejection from Challenge Cup
   • Fighting: Ejection from Challenge Cup

14. Players and coaches will perform the traditional center-ice handshake at the conclusion of each game.

15. No appeal shall be allowed from a referee’s decision to eject a player from a game or from the Challenge Cup. No appeal shall be allowed from any discretionary decision or call by a referee or linesman.

16. Disciplinary matters and appeals will be handled by the Challenge Cup Tournament Committee:
   a. Kush Sidhu and Jeff Eaton – Challenge Cup co-chairs