



## ***USAIHC-Tournament Rules and Procedures***

**REVISED 6/12/18**

### **Team Conduct**

The conduct of players and coaches is to be beyond reproach both on and off the ice.

- Any misconduct will result in immediate and prompt disqualification from the tournament.
- Coaches/chaperones are responsible for the conduct of players/parents and any damages that occur at venues/tournament facilities.
- A zero tolerance policy regarding abusive language and unsportsmanlike behavior toward opposing team players/coaches/fans, as well as referees/volunteers/tournament officials, is strictly enforced. Anyone in violation of this policy will be immediately escorted from the venue.

### **Tournament Roster**

- All tournament levels are based on a calendar year format. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**
- Players are not permitted to roster on more than one team in the **same** division.
- Players in violation will be deemed ineligible and disqualified for the remainder of the tournament.
- Final tournament roster of not more than 20 players (18 players and 2 goaltenders) must be declared at Final Team Check-in.
- Teams in violation of final tournament roster by bringing in additional players not listed will forfeit **ALL** tournament games participated in.

### **Game Schedules**

- **All teams must be prepared to play their final game on Sunday anytime until 6 PM.**
- Scheduling requests must be provided in writing no later than the required forms/fees deadline.
- Teams are assigned to preliminary, round robin pool play based on the following criteria:
  - If possible, two teams from the same visiting country/state/club/organization will not play against each other in pool play.
  - The competition level may vary within each age classification during preliminary play. However, the tournament strives to have teams of comparable skill levels playing each other in the medal-round finals.
  - Teams will not be scheduled to compete in more than two games per day.
  - Every effort is made to ensure a minimum of two and a half hours between games on the same day; 10 hours between games on consecutive days, as calculated from the beginning of one game to the beginning of the next game.

### **Game Procedures**

- All Periods will be 17-Minute stop time with a resurface after every two periods of play. Games may begin on dirty ice and resurface after the first period.
- **Running time with five goal differential after the 1<sup>st</sup> period.**
- In preliminary games, the team listed first on the schedule is considered the Home Team. In finals, the team listed at the top of the bracket is considered the Home Team. The (Visiting Team must have an alternate-colored jersey available and be prepared to change, if, in the opinion of the game officials, there is a color conflict).
- Rink Coordinators will ensure that games run on time, provide score sheets and attempt to resolve jersey conflicts
- **All teams must arrive at the tournament venue at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled start time; teams must be prepared to take the ice 15 minutes prior to scheduled game time.**

- Every effort will be made to provide teams with a warm-up period; however, teams must be ready to take the ice as soon as the preceding game and/or ice resurfacing is finished.
- Tournament provides all game pucks.
- One 1 minute time-out will be allowed for all games.

### Protests

- **All protests must be made to the Tournament Officials by the Head Coach only to be valid. The Head Coach must bring their concerns to the Tournament Officials within 30 minutes of the game in question. The Advisory Committee's decision is final on all arbitrated game decisions.**
- No protests will be permitted regarding rules interpretations or judgment calls made by referees. Only protests related to player eligibility will be heard by tournament officials.
- If it is determined that a player has violated an eligibility rule (whether double rostered or age ineligible), the player is disqualified from the remainder of the tournament and all games that have been prior to the protest will be forfeited. The recorded score will be 1-0.

### Competition Format

- Teams are guaranteed five tournament games.
- Round robin, pool play competition is conducted in most age classifications with all teams seeded into a finals based on pool play point standings.
- Standings are determined on the basis of two points for all wins; in the event of a tie, one point is awarded to each team.
- If two teams have an equal number of points, standings are determined by
  - 1). head-to-head result;
  - 2). most wins;
  - 3). fewest goals allowed (**Max of 7 goal differential per game**);
  - 4). most goals scored; (**Max of 7 goal differential per game**)
  - 5). coin toss.
- If a tie in the standings occurs with three teams the tie breaking procedure eliminates head-to-head and most wins and goes to goals against as its first tie breaker. The tie-breaking procedure eliminates the top team of the three. With two teams still remain tied, the eliminated team is removed and the procedure is re-employed with the remaining two teams. If the two teams remain tied following this process, a coin toss is used to determine advancement and seeding into the finals.
- **No overtime period will be played in preliminary, pool play at any level.**
- In the event of a tie after regulation play in finals, a five-minute stop time sudden death overtime period is played following a one-minute rest period. If no score in overtime, then a 3-player shoot-out follows; visiting team shoots first.
- One minute for coaches to choose three players.
- Teams alternate players shooting until three players have had one shot and an advantage is held.
- If score remains tied, one additional player shoots until a winner is decided.
- No player may shoot twice until every eligible player has shot.
- There will be no ice resurfacing between the end of regulation play and any overtime period.
- A player in the penalty box at the end of OT is not eligible to shoot in the shootout.

### Rule Modifications

The USA International Hockey Cup is played under current USA Hockey rules as modified by tournament organizers.

USA Hockey guidelines for equipment are enforced for all teams from the United States. International teams will abide by their country's equipment guidelines. Significant modifications used during tournament play include:

- The red line is used for icing only. No touch icing.
- **Teams are allowed to ice on the penalty kill for all ages.**
- The tag-up rule for offside will be used for all Boys' and Girls' age divisions.
- **Checking will be allowed in the Boys 2005, 2004, 2003, U16 and U18 levels**
- Slap shots will be allowed in all Boys' and Girls Levels.
- Checking is not permitted in any girls' age category.
- Ejection and game misconduct will occur after five penalties per player in one game.

- Fifteen Penalty rule: A team acquiring fifteen penalties in a single game, the Head Coach will be allowed to finish that game but will not be eligible to participate in the teams next scheduled tournament game.
- All players, including alternate goaltenders, in the player's box area are required to wear helmets.

### **Penalties**

- All decisions made by the officials are final. Questions regarding rules interpretations should be directed to the Supervisor of Officials.
- USA Hockey rules governing player/coach/team penalties is enforced. In the event of coincidental penalties, neither team will skate shorthanded.
- Referees have the discretion of assessing a game disqualification penalty to players and/or coaches for the remainder of any game. Players and/or coaches receiving a game disqualification penalty will be eligible to play/coach at the next scheduled game.
- Any player and/or coach using remarks that are considered a racial slur in nature heard by a game official will automatically receive a game misconduct. The tournament advisory committee reserves the right to review any racially motivated incident for further disciplinary action, including disqualification from the tournament.

### **Awards**

- Individual medals will be presented to the top two or three teams (Gold, Silver and Bronze) in each age group (depending on division). Every game will be awarded a game MVP. Championship trophies will be presented to all 1<sup>st</sup> place teams, along with Tournament MVP plaques.
- The team name of each classification winner will be engraved on the USA International Hockey Cup Trophy.