

ATLANTIC CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

U18 Atlantic Championships
U18 Female Atlantic Championships



UNDER 18 ATLANTIC CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

Revision Update:	November 16, 2023
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This document applies to the following Atlantic Hockey Championships:

- U18 Atlantic Championships
- U18 Female Atlantic Championships

1.0 REGULATIONS

- In the U18 divisions each team may have a maximum of twenty (20) players, two (2) of whom must be goaltenders.
- Each team is permitted a maximum of five (5) non-playing personnel: namely, Manager, Coach, two (2) Assistant Coaches and Trainer. In addition each team will have a Member/Provincial Representative who will be part of the Tournament Directorate.
- Once the championship commences, the player roster is frozen and further additions will not be granted.
- No roster changes will be permitted once the final roster has been signed off by participating teams and Member representative and submitted at the Tournament Directorate Meeting.
- As per Hockey Canada Regulation E.1, each team must have a minimum of (15) players, 2 of whom must be goaltenders by February 10. Any player who is listed on the declared team roster for a team which is participating in a national or regional championship will not be allowed to be on the declared team roster of any affiliated team which is participating in another national or regional championship being played concurrently. (excluding U15 Female AAA Championships).
- To participate in an Atlantic Championship (exception: the Host Community Team), a team must compete in Member/Provincial Playdowns and be declared Member/Provincial Champion.
- The team shall be composed of players meeting the residential qualifications contained in the Hockey Canada Regulations and shall be a team qualifying for Member/Provincial playoffs. The team shall not be an all-star team drawn from one or more teams or leagues in a city, town, police village, rural area or a zone that has been established by the Member/Province or from any special inter-Member/Provincial transfers. The team is not required to play in a league, but must be formed by January 10, as per Hockey Canada regulations. Teams can use affiliate players to get to the maximum number of players if such affiliation is approved by the Member/Province and the affiliation complies with Regulation E. Affiliate players must be from a lower division or category.

U18 Female

- h) In order to participate in the **U18 Female Atlantic's** a player must satisfy Hockey Canada Regulation M.2, which states:
- i) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any U18 Female Player, including Affiliate Players, must have played a minimum of 50% of her registered Hockey Canada team's total league games to be eligible to participate in League, Regional and National playoffs leading to the ESSO Cup. If the player's registered Hockey Canada team does not play in a League, the Player must play in a minimum 50% of her Team's Exhibition Games and Tournament games. Where a Player is unable to participate in 50% of her Team's games due to illness or injury, her eligibility under this Regulation will be determined by the Member or, in the case of Inter-Member competition, the President/COO of Hockey Canada, following receipt of appropriate medical documentation.
- j) Each team roster list must be approved and verified by the Member/Provincial Executive Director. Each team must be prepared to present its players' Hockey Canada proof of registration for inspection by the Chair of the Tournament Directorate at the championship prior to participation in the championship.
- k) Each team may have twenty (20) players (U18) in uniform including the regular goalkeeper and an alternate goalkeeper, all of whom shall be duly registered in accordance with Hockey Canada regulations. The players registered as goalkeepers shall only be eligible to play as goalkeepers. One alternate goalkeeper must be dressed and on the bench. Each team will be permitted to have five (5) staff on the bench during the games.
- l) Any team required to supplement its roster to the full twenty (20) players, shall choose these additions only from its list of specially affiliated players, its club or affiliated team (depending on which type of affiliation the team is using) of a lower division, sub-division or category.
- m) During the championship competition a replacement may be permitted for a goaltender who becomes ill or injured during the competition or is under suspension. Two alternate goaltenders will be provided by the Host Member. The following process outlines the procedure and protocol for the use of alternate goaltenders:
 - i. A team requesting to use alternate goaltenders must make a written request to the Tournament Directorate Chairperson.
 - ii. In the case of an ill or injured goaltender, a medical certificate must accompany the request.
 - iii. The replacement goaltenders will alternate games as required and will remain with a team until the regular goaltender returns.
- n) The two alternate goaltenders will receive the same privileges as the other participants:
 - i. Accreditation
 - ii. Banquet tickets
 - iii. Gold, silver or bronze medals if they are part of a team winning such an award
- o) Replacement goaltenders will be on call and will meet up with the team upon being contacted by the Tournament Directorate Chairperson or his/her designate in charge of the championship.

- p) The Championships will be played under official Hockey Canada rules, except as outlined above (replacement goaltenders).
- q) For optional Hockey Canada Playing Rules, the following is in effect only for the U18 and U18 Female Championships only:
 - Rule 6.7(d) – No Change Icing, will be utilized
 - Rule 6.7(e) – Hybrid Icing, will **NOT** be utilized
- r) Home teams will be represented on the right side of the schedule. Each team will receive two home games in round robin play.
- s) Home teams will wear white jerseys. Away teams will wear dark jerseys for all games.
- t) In all playoff games, the team which finished highest in the final round robin standings, shall be the home team.

2.0 TOURNAMENT DIRECTORATE

- a) The Tournament Directorate will be responsible for the general administration and operation of the Championship, all matters of a technical nature, and also be responsible for all matters of discipline. The referee will report all matters that may require disciplinary action to the Tournament Directorate.
- b) The members of the Directorate shall be appointed as follows:
 - i. The Tournament Directorate Chairperson, as assigned by the Host Member;
 - ii. One representative from each of the four Atlantic Members.
- c) There will be a Pre-Tournament meeting of the Tournament Directorate, Referee-in-chief and one representative from each team prior to the start of the tournament. The meeting will be held at a place designated by the Host Committee. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory.

3.0 DISCIPLINE

- a) Any disciplinary action will fall under the jurisdiction of the Tournament Directorate Chairperson. The Chairperson may consult with the Tournament Directorate Committee as required.
- b) The Championships shall follow the Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Guidelines for Minor/Female hockey.
- c) All Member suspensions will be recognized at Atlantic Championships. The Tournament Directorate Chairperson must be notified on this matter prior to the opening of the Championship.
- d) A suspended player shall not be eligible to take part in the opening or closing ceremonies of a tournament.

- e) If a player or team official is ordered to the dressing room or ejected for the balance of the game, he/she shall be subject to any further disciplinary action deemed necessary by the Tournament Directorate.
- f) A player or team official ordered to the dressing room or ejected for the balance of the game or for receiving a penalty that would require a suspension shall not take part in any closing ceremonies following the game. Should this take place during the final game of the tournament, the player or team official shall not take part in the closing ceremonies for the tournament.
- g) Unless participating in a game or by special permission of the Tournament Directorate, all players will have a curfew of 11:00 P.M.
- h) The Tournament Directorate will rule on all grievances resulting from the championship game.
- i) Pictures, video, or any equipment, visual, electronic, digital, or otherwise, shall not be used to determine or to change the result of a ruling or game. The use of such images and equipment is valid only for information purposes and assisting in rendering of a decision by the Tournament Directorate Chairperson, such as:
 - i. Videos for the purpose of identifying the correct player in situations where an incorrect player may have been identified by the on-ice official(s) and issued a penalty resulting in suspension. This excludes players who have been issued a penalty without a suspension;
 - ii. Videos for the purpose of reviewing the conduct of game officials, players or coaches during altercations, specifically when the use of force is concerned;
 - iii. Videos for the purpose of reviewing a game situation that has, or may have, resulted in a serious injury to any player whether a penalty was assessed or not;
 - iv. Videos for the purpose of reviewing a penalty that carries a suspension; and
 - v. Videos for the purpose of reviewing the conduct of spectators or parents.
- j) Videos will not be accepted in the following situations:
 - i. Videos for the purpose of reviewing goals or disallowed goals, off-sides or icing calls;
 - ii. Videos for the purpose of reviewing the conduct or actions of any team or individual player unless otherwise outlined above;
 - iii. Videos for the purpose of reviewing on-ice officials' calls or non-calls; and
 - iv. Videos for the purpose of reviewing the on-ice officials' penalty selection.
- k) The Tournament Directorate Chairperson may consult with other individuals including but not limited to players, team officials, on-ice officials, event referee-in-chief etc. to conduct a review.
- l) A video review may be requested by a team or through the direction of the Tournament directorate.
- m) The review is final and shall not subject to any further appeal.

4.0 GAME PROTESTS

- a) Protests will only be entertained when they are concerning rule interpretation or player eligibility. Official(s) judgment is not protestable.
- b) Game Protest Procedure for any game shall be as follows:
 - i. Protests and all supporting evidence must be submitted in writing within one (1) hour of the game's conclusion to the Tournament Directorate Chairperson.
 - ii. The Tournament Directorate Chairperson shall conduct a meeting with team and event officials involved and record all the facts pertaining to the case.
 - iii. The Tournament Directorate Chairperson will have full authority to rule on protests.
 - iv. The ruling of the Tournament Directorate Chairperson shall be final and binding and not subject to further appeal.
 - v. Protests will NOT be entertained on the outcome of the final championship game.
 - vi. Any decision will be given in writing to the team(s) involved.
 - vii. All press releases or public statements related to game protests or disciplinary action shall be made only by the Tournament Directorate Chairperson.

5.0 PRELIMINARY ROUND

- a) The length of the games shall be 3 x 20 periods, with a flood after each period.

Appendix A - Event Schedules
Appendix B – U18 Game Protocols
- b) Each team is permitted one Time Out per game as per Hockey Canada Rule 6.18(e)
- c) The teams will play a single round robin schedule. Points will be awarded on the **3-Point System**.
 - 3 points for the winning team at the conclusion of regulation time.
 - 1 point for both teams at the conclusion of regulation time if the game is tied.
 - An additional point earned for the team winning the game in a 5-minute overtime period or the Shoot Out Procedure.
 - 0 points for the team losing the game in regulation time.
- d) In the event of a tied game at the conclusion of three regulation periods, in the preliminary round, the following procedure will be utilized:
 - i. There will be a three-minute intermission.
 - ii. Teams will play a single five-minute, sudden victory, 3-on-3 overtime period. The teams will not change ends between the end of regulation time and the beginning of overtime.
 - iii. If no goal is scored in the overtime period, then the Game Winning Shots procedure will apply (see below).
- e) Any overtime is considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties will remain in force. If either team declines to play in the necessary period(s), the game will be declared a loss for that team.

- f) If a penalty carries over from regulation, the teams will play at 4 on 3. Once the penalty time expires, the teams will revert to 4 on 4.
- g) If a penalty is taken in overtime, the teams play 4 on 3. Once the penalty time expires, the teams will revert to 4 on 4.
- h) If a second penalty is taken, the teams will play 5 on 3. At no time will a team have fewer than three skaters on the ice during the overtime period. Once player strength reaches 5 on 4 or 5 on 5, at the next stoppage of play, player strength is adjusted to 4 on 3 or 4 on 4, as appropriate.
- i) If a team is penalized in overtime, teams play 4 on 3.
- j) If both teams are penalized with coincidental minor or major penalties at the same stoppage of play, teams will continue to play at the same strength. ie: 4 on 4 remains 4 on 4, 4 on 3 would remain 4 on 3.

6.0 BRONZE MEDAL GAME

- a) In the event of a tied game at the conclusion of three regulation periods, in the Bronze Medal game, the following procedure will be utilized:
 - i. There will be a three-minute intermission.
 - ii. Teams will play a single ten-minute, sudden victory, 3-on-3 overtime period. The teams will not change ends between the end of regulation time and the beginning of overtime.
 - iii. If no goal is scored in the overtime period, then the Game Winning Shots procedure will apply (see below).
- b) Any overtime is considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties will remain in force. If either team declines to play in the necessary period(s), the game will be declared a loss for that team.

7.0 GOLD MEDAL GAME

- a) In the event of a tied game at the conclusion of three regulation periods, in the gold medal game, the following procedure will be utilized:
 - i. There will be a sixteen-minute intermission, during which the ice will be resurfaced.
 - ii. Teams will play a single twenty-minute, sudden victory, 3-on-3 overtime period. The teams will not change ends between the end of regulation time and the beginning of overtime.
 - iii. If, at the end of the overtime period, the teams are still tied, then the Game Winning Shots will apply (see below).
- b) Any overtime is considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties will remain in force. If either team declines to play in the necessary period(s), the game will be declared a loss for that team.

8.0 GAME WINNING SHOTS

- a) If no goal is scored in the final overtime period, then the Game Winning Shots will apply. The following procedure will be utilized.
- b) The fourteen-metre wide longitudinal center section of the rink, between the face-off spots in the neutral and end zones, will be dry-scraped.
- c) A coin toss will determine which team takes the first shot. The winner of the coin toss will choose whether their team will shoot first or second. The “home” team will call the coin toss.
- d) Shots will be taken at both ends of the ice surface.
 - i. Goaltenders will defend the same end as they did for the overtime period.
 - ii. Goaltenders will remain in their crease while their team is shooting at the opposite end of the ice.
- e) The Official Scorer will record all shots taken, indicating the player shooting, the goaltender defending the shot, and the result of the shot.
 - i. Only the decisive goal will count in the result of the game. It will be credited to the player who scored and to the goaltender who allowed the shot.
- f) If a player is designated to participate in the Game Winning Shots but declines or commits an infraction prior to or during their shot, that shot will be declared “no score” for their team.
- g) If a team declines to participate in the Game Winning Shots, the game will be declared a loss for that team.

Rules for Game Winning Shots

- h) All shots will be taken as per Hockey Canada Rule 4.11 – Penalty Shot.
- i) The Game Winning Shots will begin with (5) five players from each team, taking alternate shots until a decisive goal is scored. Once a decisive goal has been scored, the remaining shots will not be taken.
 - i. The coach of each team will provide the names and numbers of (5) five different players to the Referee prior to the conclusion of the dry-scrape.
 - ii. Any player whose penalty had not been completed when the overtime period ends may not participate in the Game Winning Shots. They must remain in the penalty bench or the dressing room until the conclusion of the game.
 - iii. The goaltenders from either team may be changed after each shot.
 - iv. Penalties during the Game Winning Shots will be served as follows:
 - o If a player is penalized during the Game Winning Shots, they must proceed immediately to the Penalty Bench or the Dressing Room. They will be ineligible to participate in the remainder of the Game Winning Shots.
 - o If a goaltender is assessed a Minor, Major, Misconduct, or Match penalty, or a team is assessed a Bench Minor penalty during the Game Winning Shots, the team must designate a player to serve the penalty. If the penalty is assessed

10.0 AWARDS

For all Championships, the following awards will be presented at the conclusion of the round robin:

- Top Scorer
- Top Forward
- Top Defense
- Top Goalie
- Most Valuable Player

APPENDIX A

Atlantic Championship Schedules

Below outlines the order of games and times for events hosted by each Member. Exceptions on game times may only be considered upon request by the host committee and granted approval from the Atlantic Members.

Note: The U18 Female Championship does include a Bronze Medal game. The U18 Championship event does not include a bronze medal game, thus only play eleven (11) games in total.

Game #	Time	Hockey NS	Hockey NL	Hockey NB	Hockey PEI
THURSDAY					
1	1:00 pm	NS vs PEI	NL vs NS	NL vs NB	PEI vs NB
2	4:00 pm	NL vs NB	NB vs PEI	PEI vs NS	NS vs NL
	7:15 pm	Opening Ceremonies			
3	7:30 pm	Host vs PEI	NS vs Host	NL vs Host	NB vs Host
FRIDAY					
4	10:00 am	NB vs NS	PEI vs NL	NS vs NB	NL vs PEI
5	1:00 pm	Host vs NL	Host vs NB	Host vs PEI	Host vs NS
6	4:00 pm	PEI vs NB	PEI vs NS	NS vs NL	NL vs NB
7	7:00 pm	NS vs Host	NL vs Host	NB vs Host	PEI vs Host
SATURDAY					
8	9:00 am	PEI vs NL	NS vs NB	PEI vs NL	NB vs NS
9	12:00 pm	NB vs Host	Host vs PEI	Host vs NS	Host vs NL
10	3:00 pm	NL vs NS	NB vs NL	NB vs PEI	NS vs PEI
SUNDAY					
11	9:00 am	Bronze Medal	Bronze Medal	Bronze Medal	Bronze Medal
12	12:00 pm	Gold Medal	Gold Medal	Gold Medal	Gold Medal

APPENDIX B

U18 Game Protocols

- U18 Atlantic Championships
- U18 Female Atlantic Championships

Warm Up

Game Clock	Activity
30:00	Clock Begins
26:00	Horn sounds – One-minute warning until warm up
25:00	Warm-up begins
17:00	Horn sounds (2:00 warning for warm-up)
16:00	Horn sounds (1:00 warning for warm-up) All pucks picked up
15:00	Ice Cleaning Begins
2:00	Officials on Ice
1:45	Visiting Team returns to the Ice (Starting Line Up only on Ice)
1:30	Home Team returns to the Ice (Starting Line Up only on Ice)
1:00	National Anthem
0:00	Game starts when clock is reset

Intermissions (Flood between Periods)

15:00	Teams leave the Ice
3:00	Officials return to the Ice
2:00	Visiting team returns to the Ice (Starting Line Up only on Ice)
1:30	Home Team returns to the Ice (Starting Line Up only on Ice)
0:00	Game starts when clock is reset

**** Games will be 3 x 20-minute periods**