



EASTERN SHORE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

27th ANNUAL HOUSE TOURNAMENT

MARCH 24TH TO APRIL 6TH, 2025

RULES FOR EASTERN SHORE INVITATIONAL RECREATION TOURNAMENT

1. **SANCTIONING:** This Tournament is sanctioned under the ESMHA, HNS and HC. Hockey Nova Scotia Rules will apply where Tournament Rules do not apply or exist.
2. **Roster:** Each Team is required to submit an official Hockey Nova Scotia Roster (not GrayJay) prior to March 20th. Roster changes will not be permitted post deadline. (email HNS for pdf copy)
3. **Affiliates:** If a team is below 11 players and a player is injured or sick an affiliate may be used with the approval of Committee ahead of time. (max 11) Note: all affiliates must match player being replaced skill set.
4. **Tournament Committee and Referee's Decision:** The Referee's decision on ice will be FINAL. The decision of the Tournament Committee will be FINAL on any matters/concerns related to General Tournament rules. Contact with Tournament Officials will be through Coaches or Managers only.
5. **Harassing officials:** Harassing tournament officials (Referees, Linesmen, volunteers or Timekeepers) will result in immediate expulsion from the arena. This applies to players, team officials and spectators.
6. **Division Breakdown:** There will be 4 division in this tournament: U11C, U13C, U15C and U18C.
7. **Number of games:** All teams in each division will play 3 Round Robin games, 1 Cross Over game, and 1 Gold or Bronze Championship game. 5 game total.

8. **Game format:** All games will be 3-12 min stop time with a 2-minute warm up. Floods prior to each game. If there is a 5-goal differential 3rd period will be played at Run Time. If the lead subsequently reverts to 4 goals then stop time is reinstated.
 9. **Team preparedness:** All teams are to be in the arena and ready to play 30 minutes prior to a scheduled game. Coaches to verify roster 30 mins prior to game time via GrayJay. IF WE ARE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, GAMES WILL CONTINUE, SO BE READY!
 10. **Cancellation due to weather:** The tournament committee will not be held responsible for any incidents due to weather. Due to scheduling restrictions, these games will not be able to be rescheduled. Should both teams forfeit due to weather, a score of 1-1 shall be awarded.
 11. **Goaltenders:** if a team's starting goal tender is not present, a team may use another goaltender from another team in that division or a goaltender from the next lowest division in order to play the game. If and when the starting goaltender does arrive, she/he will immediately replace that goaltender.
 12. **Handshake:** All Players/teams will shake hands at the beginning of game and line up on blue line at the end of game for presentation of MVP. Teams must exit the ice immediately post presentation of MVP.
 13. **Time Outs: Round Robin:** not permitted. **Cross over and Medal games:** one time out (30 seconds) per team, per game is allowed.
 14. **Time Between Periods:** To maintain schedule, 30 seconds will be allotted between periods for goaltenders to switch ends only.
 15. **Player safety last five minutes of game:** in the interest of player safety, if within the last 5 minutes of the game, there are continuous roughing incidents at the end of each play, the referee, RIC and/or Tournament Coordinator can decide to end the game with that score, without consulting the team coaches involved.
 16. **Game points:** During round robin play a win will be three points, a tie: one point, a loss: zero points.
 17. **Round robin Tie Breaking Formula:** in the event of a tie (after round robin play), the higher position in standing shall be awarded to the team that:
 - a) Has fewest forfeited games
If still tied: b) Was the winner of the game between the teams that are tied.
 - If still tied: c) has the best Plus/minus differential (goals for/against) MAX +7
 - If still tied: d) Has the most goals for
 - If still tied: e) Has the fewest penalty minutes
 - If still ties: f) Wins the Coin Toss
- Overtime tie breaking formula:** all crossover and medal games will play to a win. A tie will be broken by:
- a) **5 Minute Run time sudden death 3 VS 3** (In the event of a penalty during sudden death, the non-offending team will put a skater on the ice. All 2-minute penalties become 3-minute penalties due to "run time")
 - b) Shootout

18. **Shootouts:** in the event of a 'shootout' the following will apply: Each Coach will name 3 shooters. If still tied after 3 shooters, each coach will name 3 further shooters. No player may shoot a second time unless everyone else on the roster has shot once.
- Shooters will alternate between teams with "home" team shooting first.
 - During the first round, the best of 3 shots will win the game.
 - Should the score continue to be tied at the end of the first three shooters, the next unanswered goal shall be the winner.
19. **Minor & Major Penalties:** Any player receiving 3 minors (stick infractions) in a game will be ejected for the remainder of the game. A double minor will count as 2 minor penalties for the purpose of this rule. Major penalties (player or bench) will result in a suspension for the remainder of the game. Game misconduct received in a final ten minutes of regular playing time or overtime will result in suspension from next game. **FIGHT MAJOR, MATCH OR GROSS MISCONDUCT PENALTIES RESULT IN A SUSPENSION FROM THE TOURNAMENT.** Penalties carry over to next season: All suspensions will carry over to next seasons as this tournament is sanctioned by the NSMHC.
20. **Team conduct:** Coaches and/or Managers will be responsible for the conduct of their team while in the arena, the dressing room and on the ice prior to and after the game. Teams must vacate the dressing room within 15 minutes post game. Coaches are responsible to maintain dressing room cleanliness prior to departure. Only registered team officials are permitted on the bench or the area immediately adjacent to the bench. NO children under 16 are to be on the bench.
21. **Spectator conduct:** Spectators are reminded that there is a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY and abuse of any kind towards Players, Officials and other Parents will not be tolerated at any time. Such behaviours will result in immediate removal from arena and suspension from attending the remainder of tournament. **NO AIRHORNS OR WHISTLES ARE permitted.**
22. **Loss or damage:** The tournament will not be responsible for any loss, damaged or stolen equipment or any other goods to whom it may belong.
23. **Refund:** With 2 months notice teams will be reimbursed the full registration fee. If less than 2 months ½ the registration fee, less than 1 month no reimbursement will be issued.
24. Hospitality Suite will be open each Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the tournament supplying hot and cold food for all players and families. We ask that you respect the volunteers and clean up after yourselves ensuring a good environment for the next to follow.
25. Absolutely NO HOCKEY BAGS OR GEAR in the hospitality room. NO PLAYING WITH STICKS/PUCKS OR BALL HOCKEY IN HALLWAYS OF ARENA. ABSOLUTELY NO AIRHORNS ARE PERMITTED IN THE ARENA.

We strive to offer the players and parents an amazing tournament experience throughout fair play and good sportsmanship. We ask that you contribute the same positive outlook within your parent and player group. We look forward to seeing you and wish all teams good luck!!