**NCAA GIRLS’ HOCKEY**

**2018-2019**

## SEASON OF PLAY

Girls = Winter Season

## LEVELS OF COMPETITION

Senior Level (Varsity) Girls

## ELIGIBILITY

The following classifications shall apply for Senior GIRLS HOCKEY: A/AA under - 951 students

AAA 951 and over

**Note**: School classification is based on enrolment on October 31st of the PREVIOUS school year.

**Note**: According to ARTICLE XV; Section 1, a team may opt to play at a higher classification if they declare their intention by the Declaration of Play deadlines.

The athlete’s birth certificate indicates that **he has not reached his 19th birthday by January 1st** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

**Note**: To be considered a team eligible for OFSAA Girls’ Hockey Championship play, a team must play in an Association approved league and play a minimum of a six game schedule and/or participate in a minimum of six exhibition/tournament games.

No competitor is eligible for OFSAA-sanctioned events whose name has appeared on a game sheet for any Senior AAA teams of the CWHL, or who is a member of the National Development under 22 team, or National Senior team.

## ELIGIBILITY SHEETS

A copy of a signed NCAA eligibility sheet must be received by the Convener at least 2 full school days prior to each team’s first league game.

## GAME TIME

Game time is contingent to home school ice availability.

## HOME SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

* + provide and prepare minor officials (scorekeeper and timer)
  + use “NCAA” score sheets

## PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS

The officials will be paid at games. The home team will pay for all home matches (including the playoffs). The visiting team is responsible for transportation costs to and from the competition.

If a gate is charged at an NCAA league or playoff game, then all expenses will be paid from the gate and then the rest will be divided equally between home and visiting team.

In the event a playoff game is played at a neutral site then the cost of the officials will be shared equally between participating teams.

## REPORTING SCORES

The home team will report the score online at [WWW.NCAA.CA](http://WWW.NCAA.CA) and submit the game sheet to the NCAA Convener within 24hours.

## OFFICIALS

All officials must be accredited.

## OFFICIAL RULE BOOK

NCAA and Zone policies first, then the OMHA - Official Rule Book FOR HOCKEY will govern Zone Hockey.

## GAME FORFEITURES

The following policies are in place for game forfeitures:

1. Should a team forfeit a game with less than 48 hours’ notice, all costs associated with the game shall be charged to the forfeiting school.
2. Should a team forfeit a game; the forfeiting team will be given a loss as a result of the forfeit.
3. Should a team forfeit two (2) games during regular season play, the team shall be removed from the league and all points earned in games played against that team shall be removed from league standings.
4. A team that forfeits a game during the regular season loses all rights with regards to tie breaking procedures. (i.e. if the team is tied for 3rd, the team will be relegated to 4th place).
5. A team that forfeits a playoff game shall also forfeit the right to play any further playoff games at the current or subsequent level of playoffs (i.e. when two teams qualify for SOSSA). (April 2016)
6. **LEAGUE FORMAT FOR NCAA GIRLS HOCKEY**

All sport schedules shall have NO more than 12 league games in a season.

In team sports where standings are used to determine play-offs, the win/loss achieved against teams that drop out will be taken away (not added) to teams that are still yet to play them.

**NCAA Playoff Structure**

The NCAA will have Junior and Senior league and playoff structure.

8 team leagues-everybody plays each other once, top two for NCAA title.  All teams break out for appropriate Zone representative game (example Zone 4 AA).  Higher league position is the home team.

7 team leagues- everybody plays each other once, top two for NCAA title.  All teams break out for appropriate Zone representative game (example Zone 4 AA).  Higher league position is the home team.

6 team leagues- everybody plays each other once, top two for NCAA title.  All teams break out for appropriate Zone representative game (example Zone 4 AA).  Higher league position is the home team.

5 team leagues- everybody plays a home and home, top two   NCAA title.  All teams break out for appropriate Zone representative game (example Zone 4 AA).  Higher league position is the home team.

4 team leagues- everybody plays a home and home, top two NCAA title.  All teams break out for appropriate Zone representative game (example Zone 4 AA).  Higher league position is the home team.

3 teams leagues every team plays each other twice, 1st gets a bye and plays the winner of 2nd vs 3rd

2 team leagues – league and exhibition games are played followed by a one game NCAA final

1 team leagues – exhibition games are played. The team moves on to their Zone Final.

\*Leagues with fewer than 6 teams and unique circumstances may have the structure changed in order to accommodate due to weather, travel, safety (ex Slo Pitch, Baseball Football)

\*A Zone representative game is needed to determine who will represent the NCAA for the Zone championship against the NRHSAA and SOSSA qualification

**The Zone representative game is played if there is a second place team in that Zone and level and they accept the game being played: the team higher in the standings will be home (tiebreaker rule may be needed-see constitution). If the NCAA final is also the Zone representative game, that game will act as the Zone representative game also.**

During hockey playoffs, the home team should book two hours of ice time in order to try and prevent the implementation of arena curfew procedures. (March 2015)

**Breaking a playoff tie because of an Arena Curfew:**

**(1) TIED PLAYOFF GAME**: If a playoff game is tied at point 10 minutes before the arena curfew time, then the game will be stopped: there will be a 5 minute sudden death overtime (straight time) period played. If a tie still exists then a sudden death shoot out will occur.

**(2) NOT TIED AT 10 MINUTES** **before curfew BUT BECOMES TIED at curfew**: If a playoff game is NOT tied at a point 10 minutes before the arena curfew time, then the game continues. If the game is tied AT curfew then the winner will be the team ahead at a point 10 minutes before curfew.

**(3) Breaking a tied playoff game at the end of regulation time**: (ie overtime)

1. All overtime is sudden death (ie the first goal scored wins the game).

2. All overtime periods are stop time.

3. If the game is tied after regulation time, then the teams will play one five (5) minute period of 5 on 5.

4. If the game remains tied after the first five (5) minute overtime period, then the teams will play one five (5) minute period of 4 on 4.

5. If the game remains tied after the second five (5) minute overtime period, then the teams will play one five (5) minute overtime period of 3 on 3.

6. Teams will continue to play five (5) minute periods of 3 on 3 hockey until a winner is determined.

7. If at any time an overtime game is within 10 minutes of arena curfew, the game will be stopped and a 3 penalty shot system will be implemented. (i) Total goals of a 3 player pool from each team. (ii) If still tied, the remaining players will take alternating shots until a winner is determined.

**Note**: Both 1) and 2) will only be in effect if the curfew comes before the end of regulation game time.

## PLAY-OFF FORMAT FOR ZONE 3 AND 4 BOYS’ HOCKEY (NRHSAA/NCAA)

The NRHSAA representative in each classification and zone will play the NCAA representative in each classification and zone. The winner of that game will be the zone champion and will go to SOSSA. If a second entry to SOSSA exists, then the second place finisher in the zone champion’s association may challenge the runner up in the zone final for the second entry into SOSSA. If a challenge game takes place then the runner up in the zone final will host the challenge game.

In odd starting school years, the NCAA will host boys’ zone championship games and the NRHSAA will host girls’ zone championship games. In even starting school years, the NCAA will host girls’ zone championship games and the NRHSAA will host boys’ zone championship games. – As Nov. 2017

## TIMING OF GAMES

* + Games will have 3, 12 minute periods (stop time) OR until curfew, whichever comes first.
  + In the last ten (10) minutes of the game with a “5" or more goal spread, the clock shall run; and with three (3) minutes remaining in the game with a “3" or more goal spread, the clock shall run.
  + The referee has the option to stop a game at any time.

## SUSPENSIONS

The Niagara Catholic Athletic Association (NCAA) supports a philosophy of athletic competition that is guided by the highest standards of good sportsmanship and fair play.

* Any incidents that occur during NCAA league and play off competition will be forwarded directly to the NCAA Convenor. The game sheet and/or the referee’s report will be forwarded to the home school Principal and the on-site convener if applicable.
* The ejected student-athlete or coach will be suspended for the next game/competition and may receive additional sanctions/consequences as determined by the school Principal.
* A Principal may request an exception to this suspension when the next game/competition occurs for another sport season and the suspension may hinder further participation for a student athlete/coach.
* Any student-athlete or coach ejected a second time in the same season shall not be able to participate until the case is reviewed and ruled on by the Sanctions and Protest Committee. The onus of the appeal is on the school Principal.
* The onus to request a review/hearing by the Sanctions and Protest Committee is on the school Principal. The school Principal has 48 hours to provide a request for such a review/hearing to the NCAA Convenor.

## TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES

These procedures shall be used when determining a play-off position when a league schedule leads to play-offs:

1. Record between tied teams;
2. Record against teams higher in the standings (1 above, then 2 above, etc.);
3. Record against teams lower in the standings (1 below, then 2 below, etc.);
4. Coin flip to determine playoff position only. The convenor will perform the coin flip. The school that is alphabetically highest will have “heads” in the coin flip. The convenor will notify schools of the results.
5. Playoff on a neutral field/court or a coin flip for home field will be conducted if both coaches agree, if it is to determine the final playoff position.
6. In the event of a four way tie, the convenor, in consultation with the NCAA executive and the schools involved, will determine a tie breaking procedure.

## ZONE QUALIFICATION TO SOSSA

One champion from each Zone will go to SOSSA. The championship will be held in the winter at least one week prior to the OFSAA. Check [www.ofsaa.on.ca](http://www.ofsaa.on.ca/) for that date.

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**The NCAA constitution will govern all NCAA sports.**