



44th Annual Walter Gretzky Girls Hockey Tournament 2026 – Tournament Rules

OWHA Rules shall apply EXCEPT as listed below

Registration

- Teams are to register at the Wayne Gretzky Centre with a paper copy of their OWHA approved roster.
- A copy of your OWHA participant registration must be available on request (Roster)
- Arena guidelines for each arena are posted on the homepage of our website www.bgaha.ca (City rules apply for Lions Park, Civic, Wayne Gretzky Centre, County rules apply for St George (South Dumfries), Brant Sports Complex)
- All players participating in the tournament must be properly registered through the OWHA to play on the team with which they are listed, or qualified to play by a proper OWHA Pickup Consent form on RAMP. No player may play on more than one team in a tournament.
- Coaches must follow OWHA guidelines for using any AP players and complete the procedure on RAMP

Playing Rules and Tournament regulations are those of Hockey Canada and the OWHA EXCEPT:

- Teams must be available to play **ten (10) minutes** prior to their scheduled time.
- ALL games can start **10 minutes early IF** the ice **and** officials are ready.
- For Representative Teams – Home team will wear LIGHT jerseys
- For all teams: In the case of jersey conflict, the home team will change.
- All teams must be ready to go on the ice as soon as the Zamboni is off and door is shut at which time the two-minute warm up will start.
- Teams will shake hands AFTER the game at the referee's discretion.
- **Floods may be adjusted at the discretion of tournament officials in the interests of scheduling**
- At the completion of each game both teams will line up on their respective blue lines for the presentation of the Player of the Game awards. Each team is responsible to designate to the referee a player of the game from their own team. Try to make the selection as objective as possible so the same player does not receive the award in multiple games.
- The designated visiting team will leave the ice first upon direction of the referee and the home team will remain at their bench until the direction of the referee.
- Only arena personnel, referees, conveners and timekeepers will be allowed behind the area of the timekeeper's box.

Suspensions

- Intent to injure or fighting penalties will result in the player being expelled from the game and the remainder of the tournament. OWHA penalties and suspensions also apply.
- OWHA rules require suspensions to be served in the next scheduled game. Therefore, a player or coach receiving a suspendable penalty must serve it during the tournament regardless of their league's additional requirements. It is the responsibility of the teams coaching staff to confirm player/coach eligibility after any suspendable penalty. Due to variations in league rules, any player or coach under suspension entering the tournament is ineligible to participate in the tournament unless first cleared by the Tournament Committee. Either of the above violations will cause the offending team to automatically lose the game in which either of the above occurred. If the offending team loses the game, the score will stand. If the non-offending team loses the game, the score of the game will be recorded as one goal greater for the non-offending team than



the offending team's score. Both the offending participant and the head coach of the offending team will be suspended for the remainder of the tournament.

Timeouts

- NO timeouts are allowed in round-robin play.
- One thirty-second timeout will be allowed in Quarter final, Semi-final and Championship games
- Timeouts are NOT allowed in overtime.

Game Lengths

- U9 Rep and HL, U11 HL, U13 HL, U15 HL, U18 HL, U22 HL will have a 3-game guarantee, all other divisions will have a 4-game guarantee
- U11 Rep, U13 Rep A/BB/B/C, U15 Rep BB, B, C, U18 Rep B, C will consist (3) periods of 10, 10, 12 stop time.
- U9 Rep and all HL divisions will consist of (3) periods of 10, 10, 12 stop time.
- U13 AA, U15 A, U15 AA, U18 AA, U18 A, U18 BB Intermediate A and Senior A games will consist of (3) period consisting of 12 minutes – 12 minutes and 15 minutes, with a flood between the 2nd and 3rd period. (This flood is at the discretion of the tournament convenors and could be removed or added at any time)
- If the goal spread in the third (3rd) period reaches 7 goals, the clock will run until the spread is less than 7. There is a 7-goal spread for all tournament games for standings.
- U18AA final games will consist of (3) periods of 15minutes-15minutes-15minutes

Overtime

- Round robin games will be allowed to end in a tie.
- All championship, semi-final and quarter final games play to a winner. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time a sudden victory 5-minute overtime will commence. Teams will play 3 on 3. Players may be changed at any time. Goalies may be "pulled" at any time and a substitute player from the bench may be used. Teams do not change ends for Overtime or Shoot-Outs. If still tied a shoot-out will occur.
- Each team must designate 3 Shooters (S1, S2, S3) on a piece of paper and hand it to the on-ice officials prior to the start of any quarter, semi or final games.
- Any player serving a penalty at the end of overtime will not be eligible to participate in the shoot-out. All players except the shooter and the goalies will remain on the bench. Once a player has shot, they will go to the penalty box area. Shooters from both teams will shoot at the same time starting at center ice. All 3 shooters from each will shoot (any player serving a penalty at the end of overtime is not eligible to participate in the shootout. If player S1, S2 or S3 is serving a penalty when overtime ends then the team must select an alternate shooter). If still tied, each team will designate one shooter (other than S1, S2, or S3) at a time until all players on the game sheet (except goalies) have shot. You will continue this process until a winner is decided.
- Penalties will carry over from regulation and overtime periods. Non-offending team will add a skater.



Standings

- Teams will be awarded 2 Points for win; 1 point for a Tie; 0 points for a loss.
- Divisions that have an uneven number of teams registered (and only if a team has to play an extra game over the others in the division), game(s) will not count towards their point total, their first 3 games played will be the only points tallied in their total.
- There is a 7-goal spread for standings for all tournament games.
- BREAKING of a Tournament Tie:
Note: In case of more than two teams, tie-breakers will follow the numerical order until all ties are broken.

- i. Points (in round robin)
- ii. Wins (in round robin)
- iii. 2 Teams- Wins Between (in round robin) (not applicable for 3-way tie)
- iv. Differential (in round robin)
- v. Least Goals Against (in round robin)
- vi. Most Goals For (in round robin)
- vii. Coin Toss

***Please note that the website tie-breaker calculation does not reflect the above rules and therefore a team MUST use the above tie breaker formulas to determine a team's ranking, REGARDLESS OF THE WEBSITE RANKINGS. Please contact the tournament Chairman with any questions or clarification needed.**

Protests

- A Tournament Committee will hear protests. No protest will be heard regarding a referee's decision. A \$200 deposit, that will be returned if your protest is successful, must accompany all protests. A protest may only be heard if it is brought to the attention of the tournament chairperson or their delegate within thirty (30) minutes of completion of the game in question. A formal written submission can follow the initial notification. A hearing and ruling will be completed prior to the team's next scheduled game.
- All decisions made by the Tournament Committee are final.

Miscellaneous

- Awards will be presented to all Champions/Finalists in all championship games. Both teams will line up on their own blue lines for the presentation of medals. However, should games be behind schedule we may be forced to hand out awards in their respective dressing rooms.
- Flooding of the ice will occur at the end of each game and may be deferred at the tournament committee's discretion.
- Referee's decision is final and is not subject to appeal or grievance.
- Tournament officials' decision is Final and Binding.
- Teams cannot cancel 30 days prior to tournament as per OWHA rule
- No helmets off while players are on the ice at any time including any pictures-insurance policy
Anyone on the ice for your team must be insured through Hockey Canada (i.e. no parents on ice to take pictures)
- The tournament fee minus an admin fee of \$200 will be refunded for withdrawals before January 15, 2026. No refunds or cancellations after January 15 2026.
- Play fair, play hard and have FUN!