

Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.



STATE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S

2024

STATE

TOURNAMENT

HANDBOOK

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INTRODUCTION

2024 STATE TOURNAMENT HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

The underlying objective of all State hockey tournaments must be to provide our young hockey players with an enjoyable and meaningful experience. The goal of the WAHA Board of Directors is to ensure that every State Tournament is a great celebration of the season as it comes to an end.

It is the responsibility of WAHA to establish a set of standards by which all tournament sponsors must comply when hosting a state tournament. These standards, in the form of rules, regulations and guidelines, promote consistency in state tournament operations and should help to make each state tournament a success.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this handbook is to provide those hosting a State Tournament with an easy reference to all the applicable rules, regulations, and guidelines that are contained in the WAHA Guidebook.

In addition, it offers further explanation and interpretation of those rules and regulations and provides guidelines and recommendations that will hopefully assist you in hosting a successful state tournament.

APPLICABILITY

The rules, regulations and guidelines as outlined in this handbook apply to all state tournaments. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the rules and regulations contained in the handbook, however, if a discrepancy exists, the WAHA Guidebook contains the rule(s) that is/are currently in effect.

**REMEMBER!! ORGANIZATION AND EXTRA HANDS MAKE A TOURNAMENT
SUCCESSFUL**

OFFICIAL 2024
WAHA TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

The following directions will help you in hosting the most efficient tournament possible:

Advance Information: To avoid any conflicts at your tournament, it is best to spell out **IN ADVANCE** as much information as possible, so everyone knows and understands what to expect.

State Tournament Director: Each state tournament site must designate a State Tournament Director. The contact information for this director will be placed on the WAHA State Tournament website. The designated director must be someone who will be present at and who is on site for the duration of the tournament. The site State Tournament Director and the WAHA Section Director of the age level are responsible for all matters pertaining to the state tournament.

Rules and Operating Points: 2023-2024 WAHA Rules and Guidelines (WAHA Guidebook) govern all play. In advance, the following information should be sent to each of the teams attending the state tournament at your location. See the sample state tournament rules at the end of the handbook. These should be available to go over points upon the arrival of teams.

AVOID CONFUSION BY WRITTEN GUIDELINES

- Length of Periods:** *3 – 12-minute stop time periods for Youth 10U/Girls 10U
*3 –15-minute stop time periods for Youth 12U/Girls 12U and Youth 14U/Girls 14U
*3-17-minute stop time periods Midget/High School/Girls 19U
Note page 60 of the WAHA Guidebook (running time whenever a team has a 6-goal lead. While the game is in running time, the referee shall have the authority to order the clock to be stopped. The clock shall be stopped when a goal is scored, to assess a penalty, for injuries, or for unanticipated emergencies. Once the clock is stopped, it will be restarted upon completion of the ensuing face off.)
- Ice Resurfacing:** Ice resurfacing for Midget/High School/Girls 19U and Youth 14U/Girls 14U will be after every two periods. Ice resurfacing for Youth 10U/Girls 10U and Youth 12U/Girls 12U will be after every game. Note page 67-68 of the WAHA Guidebook. The recommended procedure for resurfacing in the case of multiple overtimes (if time allows) play the first overtime immediately following the third period and then resurface. Then play the number of overtimes that approximate the length of a regular period, and then resurface again. Follow this format until a winner emerges.
- Penalties:** Youth 10U/Girls 10U – 1 minute (minor), 3 minute (major), 6 minute (misconduct)
Youth 12U/Girls 12U and above – 1 1/2 minutes (minor), 4 minute (major), 8 minute (misconduct)

Overtime: **Except for Championship games**, all games tied at the end of regulation play will play a maximum of two (2) overtime periods of 8 minutes in length and shall be sudden victory. If still tied after the overtime periods, there will be a shootout. Teams shall change ends for each overtime. The winner of the shootout will be awarded one additional goal in the final score. Shootout procedure is found on page 69 of the WAHA Guidebook. The Championship game will be played to a winner using overtime, and if needed multiple overtimes.

Shootout: The referee shall call the two captains to the referee's crease to flip a coin to determine which team takes the first shot. The home team will call the coin toss. The winner of the coin toss will have the choice whether his/her team will shoot first or second.

The shootout procedure shall begin with five different individual shooters from each team taking alternate shots. The players do not need to be named beforehand. Players are not required to be the last five on the ice. The five shooters are Coaches Pick. Any player whose penalty has not been completed when the overtime period ended or who receives a penalty during a shootout procedure is not eligible to be one of the players selected to participate in any portion of the shootout procedure(s).

The players of both teams will take the shots alternatively until a decisive goal is scored. The remaining shots will not be taken. The shootout is a 5-player event. All five shooters will get to shoot unless you reach a situation where the remaining shooters on the team that is behind cannot tie or win the shootout. For example, the first three shooters on Team A score and the first three on Team B do not. The third goal scored by Team A is the decisive goal as team B cannot tie with their remaining two shooters. The shootout ends at that point, so it could be called best of five.

If after all five shooters have taken, their shot from both teams there is still a tie, the game proceeds to a "Sudden Victory Shootout". This is sudden win 1 v 1. Players who shot in the initial shootout can shoot again in this round.

YOU MUST HAVE AN OPEN END ON AVAILABLE ICE.

Tournament Pairings: Pairings will be set and filled in by the WAHA Section Directors once the playdown weekend is complete. Pairings will appear on the WAHA website www.wahahockey.com. As per page 67-68 of the WAHA Guidebook the upper bracket starts first. All teams will play three games.

Seeding: For 2024, state tournaments at the Youth "A" and Girls "A/B" levels will be seeded. Once play downs are completed, coaches from the qualifying teams will be involved in the seeding process.

Age Certification: PLAYERS MUST HAVE PROOF OF AGE for all playoff and state tournament games. **NO PROOF OF AGE--NO PLAY.** Have table(s) set up, with a certification committee to welcome and check in teams. Notify teams where to go and the procedure to be used. Official USA Hockey rosters will be provided for each team in the tournament. Rosters have a DOB Verification column. If checked with a "V" that player is verified and approved to participate. If the column is not checked, proof of age will be required. Documents providing proof of age are birth certificates, passports, driver's license, or a Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association Fact Sheet. (Note: copies are acceptable originals are not required.) See page 76 of the WAHA Guidebook.

Certified Coaches: Teams are required to have only coaches certified to the proper level, properly registered with USA Hockey, including completion of the age appropriate coaching module, current background screen completed, and completion of the SafeSport training program on the benches for the course of the game unless removed per USA Hockey Playing Rules. (See page 113 WAHA Guidebook). USAH Playing Rule 201(b) states that a team is permitted up to four Team Officials on the bench. All Team Officials must be a current certified Coach. (Medical personnel and trainers who are not certified coaches are not allowed on the bench) A coach's certification and modules taken can be checked by going to the WAHA website and using the "Certified Coaches Search." A coach must be listed on the roster; this confirms he is registered with USA Hockey. If the roster shows the coach has a current certification, has completed the appropriate module, and completed SafeSport training the only requirement of the coach will be to **show a picture ID** to prove they are the coach listed on the roster. If the roster does not indicate the coach has a current certification, has completed the appropriate modules and SafeSport, the coach must show the picture ID and documentation proving the completion of the certification, module, and SafeSport. Any deviation from this requirement must be approved by the WAHA Section Director for the level playing.

Number of Players: Each team may have a maximum of twenty (20) players (25 for High School/Girls 19U) on the roster (page 62 of the WAHA Guidebook). A maximum of twenty (20) players may suit up for any game.

Uniforms: All teams in state tournament play shall be properly uniformed. A team will not be considered properly uniformed if the players do not have a similarly colored jersey with numbers conspicuously displayed. Arrangements should be made before the tournament starts to have available two sets of different colored jerseys or a set of pullovers in case of conflicts.

Tournament Protests: See page 65 of the WAHA Guidebook paragraph 28 Tournament Protests.

Trophies: As per page 64-65 of the WAHA Guidebook, WAHA shall provide standardized awards for all State Tournaments. You should receive them around the middle of February.

Individual Pins: WAHA will provide state tournament pins for each participant. It is recommended that the players and coaches be announced, and the pins handed out at the conclusion of their final game of the tournament. There will be a separate bag of pins labeled "Champion" to be handed out to the first-place team. Do not return any unused pins. They can be handed out to coaches and your volunteers who helped with the tournament.

Entry Fees: WAHA will send your association a check for the entry fees for the teams participating in the state tournament that you are hosting.

Communications: Send copies of all written communications to the WAHA Section Director in charge of your age classification (See part 5 of this tournament guide)

Results: In accordance with Article 2, Section B, Paragraph 27 page 65 of the WAHA regulations, the results of the tournament must be reported for publication on the WAHA website. For 2024, there are two options for reporting/recording scores.

1. If you have internet access, you can record the scores yourself. If you plan to do this, please contact the Section Director for your level for information on how to do so.
2. You can report the scores to the Section Director for your level. The preferred method to do so is via text messaging. Voice mail is also acceptable.

Scores should be recorded/reported after each game. When you report the results be sure to give the tournament level, names of the teams, the score, and if there were any overtimes involved. Also, if it is a round robin tournament you will need to report the number of points each team received for the game. Failure to turn around this information in a timely matter will be taken into consideration when awarding future state tournaments to associations.

Noisemakers: The use/presence of artificial noisemakers, except for those required to control the play of the game, is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to bells, horns, whistles, etc. USA Hockey's Zero Tolerance Policy will be enforced. Game officials or the tournament director will identify violators to the coaches. Parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior can be removed from the spectator's viewing and game area. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.

Clothing: WAHA has a partnership with Northwest Designs to provide a State Tournament logo and clothing to be sold at all WAHA State Tournaments. The garments will be customized at your site. The name and contact information for the state tournament director at your site will be given to Northwest Designs. The director will be contacted by Northwest Designs to set up the clothing at your site.

Merchandise: Vendors such as action photographers, jewelry, etc may be present to sell items other than clothing. If your site will be using outside vendors, you **MUST** communicate to them that all items sold must be appropriate for a Youth event with no explicit language or sensitive graphics.

State Tournament Logo: The state tournament logo is the exclusive property of WAHA. It can be used in advertising, programs, decorations, etc. It may be used for souvenir/individual gift items that are given to participating players. It cannot be used on items that will be sold, without the permission of WAHA. A fee for use on items for profit may be required by WAHA.

Home Team: The Region listed on the top of every bracket will be considered the home team.

Accommodations: It is recommended that the host association block hotel rooms for visiting teams. Do advance scouting to see if your local hotels will reserve room blocks. Contact the local Chamber of Commerce for a listing of hotels to send to teams. This is especially important if other events are scheduled for your town.

Suggested Procedures:

- **Signs, banners, and other decorations of the rink to signify and help add to the celebration atmosphere.**
- Enclosed is a map showing the location of the rink.
- Locker Rooms: Cards, which are displayed on doors; if there is a difference in facilities (i.e., two sheets of ice), alternate team assignments.
- Programs: Should include space showing pairings and place for results. Commercial ads are great to publicize the event and excellent moneymakers as well. Arrange the printing schedule to accept player rosters as late as possible.
- Posters: Large poster, publicly displaying results of games and status of teams.
- Hospitality Session: A wonderful way for adults to meet others.
- Raffles, 50/50, silent auctions and other types of fundraising events.
- Gift bags for every player that include small gifts from local vendors, stores, e.g., gift cards for local restaurants, sporting goods stores.

**GREAT ORGANIZATION AND EXTRA HANDS MAKE A TOURNAMENT
SUCCESSFUL!!**

**IN ADDITION TO A GENERAL CHAIRPERSON, A SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT
REQUIRES RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

- Program/Poster** write/print/assemble/sell/distribute
- Trophies/Pins/Patches/Rule Books** provided by WAHA
- Officials** select/acquire, assign and approval of assignments with WHOA Regional Director
- Locker Room** identify/assign
- Registration/Admissions** proof of age procedures and coach certification & complete official score sheets before games
- Community Communications** hotel information/reservations
maps of the city
team correspondence
tournament festivities/mixers for parents
- Tournament P.R.** radio/TV/newspaper releases/call-ins
- Announcements** game/player introductions-National Anthem
Trophy presentations – someone with enthusiasm
- Off-Ice Officials** Scorekeeper, Clock Operator, Penalty Box Attendant
- General Administration** Collect/assemble official score sheets & Report All Scores Immediately Following Each Game
- Souvenirs/Memorabilia** Contact WAHA Section Director of level with questions regarding selling State Tournament Merchandise

SITE STATE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS RULES AND GUIDELINES

Each site director is responsible for administering the following rules and guidelines in a fair and unbiased manner.

CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

1. Check USA Hockey rosters to confirm that player birthdates are marked as verified. For any not verified compare provided **age certification documents** with the ages listed on the USA Hockey Roster. **NO AGE CERTIFICATION – NO PLAY** (page 76 in WAHA Guidebook.) Note: If the birth certification is different than USA Hockey Roster but the player is of legal age, let him play. Use the age chart on page 182, Appendix I in the WAHA Guidebook or the age certification chart below.
2. Compare score sheet stickers provided by team with USA Hockey Approved Roster to ensure a match. During warm-ups count the number of players suited up to make sure it matches with the score sheet. Maximum allowed is 20 players (page 62 in the WAHA Guidebook – High School/Girls 19U is 25 players on roster, 20 players on score sheet for any game)
3. Check **coaching certification** (page 113 in the WAHA Guidebook)

2023-2024 YOUTH AGE CLASSIFICATION

See Page 182 in the WAHA Guidebook for birth dates for both boys and girls.

Sample Welcome Letter

TO: (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) State Tournament coaches, managers, parents, and players

FROM: (Your name), Local Site Director, (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) State Tournament

DATE:

SUBJECT: (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) STATE TOURNAMENT

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME to the (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) to be hosted by (List the host association) on (list dates of tournament)

In this packet, you will find area maps, points of interest, and area hotel guides. (Note: map resources such as arena.com can be used as the rink locator, and yahoo local maps to provide reference points, hotels, etc.) We have reserved blocks of rooms at the following hotels:

Per WAHA guidelines there will not be a tournament admission fee at the gate. We will have state tournament merchandise that will be available for purchase.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (your phone number).

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK. We are looking forward to seeing you.

← → ↻ 🏠 google.com/maps/search/ice+arenas+in+Wisconsin/@43.6216248,-88.474442,7z

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Reedsburg RACA Ice Hockey Arena
 5.0 ★★★★★ (1)
 Hockey club · 1411 Viking Dr
 (608) 524-3037

Community First Champion Center
 4.6 ★★★★★ (143)
 Sports complex · 5000 W Champion Dr
 (920) 659-4914
 "Huge venue, awesome ice rink with open skates on Sunday from 3-5"

Cumberland Youth Hockey
 4.2 ★★★★★ (14)
 Hockey club · 500 8th Ave
 Open until 8:00 PM · (715) 822-3887
 "Fun place to skate!"

Chippewa Steel NAHL Hockey
 4.9 ★★★★★ (7)
 Ice hockey club · 839 1st Ave
 Open until 5:00 PM · (715) 861-2131
 "Best rink in Wisconsin"

Southern Wisconsin skating School
 No reviews
 Ice skating rink · 4812 Marsh Rd
 Closed · Closed · Opens 11:30AM
 Sat. (608) 445-1025

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2024 (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) **State Tournament Check – In – Procedures**

Congratulations and Welcome to the (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) WAHA State Tournament. March (list dates of the tournament) will be a busy and exciting time for all players, coaches, managers, and parents. To help things run smoothly you will need to have the following items with you when you check in at the rink.

- 1) You must have your official USA Hockey Roster
- 2) You must have with you an **Age Certification** for any players not marked as verified on the USA Hockey Roster. **No Age Certification – NO PLAY** (Page **76** of the WAHA Guidebook)
- 3) All coaches that will be on the bench must have the proper coaching credentials (page **113** of the WAHA Guidebook). Violation of this provision **WILL** result in removal of the coach from the bench.
- 4) Please be at the rink 45 minutes before game time to allow the site director to review your **USA Hockey Player Roster, proof of birth and coaching certifications**. Teams should be ready to go on the ice 15 minutes prior to their designated start times.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (list your contact number(s))

GOOD LUCK

2024 (State tournament level – i.e. – Youth 14U 1A) STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

- 1) USA Hockey/WAHA playing rules shall be used.
- 2) Times of periods and penalties will be as listed in the charts on page 61 of the WAHA Guidebook. Periods will be stop time.
- 3) Running time will be in effect whenever a team has a 6 or more goal lead.
- 4) Ice will be resurfaced (reference page 67-68 of WAHA Guidebook for your age specific tournament)
- 5) Each game will have a 5-minute warm-up time prior to the start of the game and a 3-minute rest between periods. Note: if ice is being resurfaced during the game, a 12-minute intermission will be used.
- 6) Except for Championship games, all games tied at the end of regulation play will play a maximum of two (2) overtime periods of 8 minutes in length and shall be sudden victory. If still tied after the overtime periods, there will be a shootout. The winner of the shootout will be awarded one additional goal in the final score. The shootout procedure is found on page 69 of the WAHA Guidebook. There will be no goal judges.
- 7) Each team is permitted one time out per game of one minute in duration.
- 8) The goal posts shall be anchored in a manner that would permit the goal posts to become dislodged when hit by a reasonable degree of force. WAHA requires the use of portable pegs to anchor the goal posts at all levels.
- 9) Penalties are per USA Hockey and WAHA Rules.
- 10) All teams must be ready to go on the ice 15 minutes prior to your scheduled game time.
- 11) All **Rosters, Coaching Certifications, and Proof of Age** will be checked upon registration.

On behalf of (list host association), we congratulate your team on making it to the WAHA State Tournament and we will do everything to make your stay with us a very enjoyable one. **GOOD LUCK!!**

**WISCONSIN AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS 2023-2024**

| | |
|--|---|
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| <p>Section Director - Girls/Women Robin Bilsborough N108 W7178 Berkshire St Cedarburg, WI 53012 (C) 414-550-8071 robin.bilsborough@wahahockey.com</p> | <p>Section Director – Youth 8U (Mites) Andy Bradford 7740 Altmeyer Drive De Pere, WI 54115 (C) 920-676-8812 abradford@depere.k12.wi.us</p> |
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