



# PITTSBURGH AMATEUR HOCKEY LEAGUE

## QUALIFYING PLAYOFFS AND OPEN DIVISION SEASON END TOURNAMENTS RULES / COSTS SUMMARY 2016-2017

The PAHL Playoff and ODSET Tournaments are sanctioned USAH events and are governed by USAH Rules and PAHL Rules and Regulations. Specifics pertaining to the tournaments are excerpted from the 2016-2017 PAHL Rules and Regulations and are listed below.

Any additional rulings or rules interpretations must be authorized by the President of PAHL, the Discipline Director of PAHL, or the Rules Director of PAHL.

### **PLAYOFF COSTS:**

- \$245 per team per game**                      All Pee wee, Bantam, and Midget Levels
- \$225 per team per game**                      All Girls Levels
- \$200 per team per game**                      All Squirt Levels

Checks should be made payable to the Host organization and paid before the first game played.

## VIII. PLAYOFFS

### **1. SEASON CHAMPS:**

- A. Season Champions will be recognized for midget, bantam, pee wee, and girl’s divisions.
- B. Season Champion teams will receive a PAHL Season Champion Banner and individual players will receive medals.
- C. The presentation of the season championship awards either immediately prior to the first playoff game/open division game, off the ice prior to the first playoff game or after the playoff game will be determined by the head coach. The head coach may also choose to waive a presentation and instead hand out the awards at another time.

### **2. PLAYOFFS – QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS:**

- A. All midget, bantam, and pee wee division teams, and all girls division teams must qualify for playoff participation by their performance and final standings in the PAHL regular season.
- B. The number of teams eligible to participate from each division will be as follows and will include approximately 40% of each division, with a minimum of 4 teams.

10 teams or less	Top 4 make playoffs
11 to 14 teams	Top 6 make playoffs
15 or more teams	Top 8 make playoffs

- C. The playoff seeding will be determined from the final PAHL regular season statistics and the higher seeded team in each game will be considered the “home” team.
- D. All divisions will follow a single elimination tournament format.
- E. All PAHL teams that have qualified for the PAHL playoffs must participate or a fine of \$1,000.00 will be assessed.
- F. Playoff Champions will receive a PAHL Playoff Champion Banner and individual players will receive medals.
- G. Playoff Finalists (second place) will receive medals.

### **3. PLAYOFFS – OPEN DIVISION SEASON END TOURNAMENTS:**

- A. All squirt division teams are eligible to enter the open division tournament for their divisions.
- B. Teams electing to attend the Open Division Season End Tournament (ODSET) will be required to register for the tournament and submit payment for their first game in advance.
- C. The tournament formats will be based on the number of teams attending and the most efficient round robin tournament game structure. The tournament seeding will be a random method. Awards will be given to 1<sup>st</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and “participants” – all players will receive an appropriate award.
- D. There will be no playoff/end of season tournament for mites.

#### **4. HOST ASSOCIATIONS:**

- A. Host associations / locations will be determined by the PAHL Executive Board after bids have been submitted for the playoff / ODSET divisions.
- B. The host association is responsible for the scheduling and all associated costs for the ice time, referees, EMTs, and security if required.
- C. The host association is responsible for contacting each PAHL team entered in the playoff tournament and informing them of their game times.
- D. Each host must choose a Playoff Director who is responsible for verifying team credentials, player eligibility, schedules, game results, etc.
- E. Each host must choose a Discipline Director who is responsible for resolving any minor discipline and/or rules violations at the playoff site; and resolving any major discipline and/or rules violations with the assistance of the PAHL Discipline Director or the PAHL Rules Director.
- F. All game misconducts and match penalties must be reported to the PAHL Discipline Director.

#### **5. PARTICIPATING TEAMS:**

- A. All teams participating in a playoff tournament must submit their team documents for review (see rule VII.7.A.) to the Playoff Director before their first game.
  - i. The Playoff director is empowered to determine the eligibility of any player, coach, or team.
  - ii. Protests can be heard following the "Protest Procedure" (telephone, faxes, and email will be used).
- B. All playoff teams will be charged an amount to be determined by the PAHL. All checks are to be made payable to the host association and paid prior to the start of each playoff game.
- C. All players must sign in before the start of each playoff game and be prepared to play 20 minutes ahead of the scheduled game time.

#### **6. GAME RULES:**

- A. All PAHL playoff games are to be played under PAHL regular season rules except:
  - i. Games will not have a curfew.
  - ii. The Playoff Director at each playoff site will decide in a joint meeting with both the head coaches, how to resolve a suspended game. The completion of a suspended game, if deemed necessary, will be restarted from the point of suspension.
  - iii. One time out per team of one (1) minute is permitted during regulation time.
  - iv. Midget AA divisions will be required to have an ice cut between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> periods.
- B. Open Division Season End Tournament games (ODSETs) will use the following 5 point scoring system.
  - 2 points for a game win
  - 1 point for a game tie
  - 1 point for the team scoring the most goals in one period and ½ point for any tied periods
  - i. No shoot out will be permitted
  - ii. If teams are tied in points at the end of the round robins the tie breaker list will be as follows.
    1. Head to head during the tournament (if a three or more way tie exists, all teams must have played each other the same number of times in order to use this first tiebreaker).
    2. Lowest goals against.
    3. Lowest penalty minutes.
    4. Greatest goal ratio (GF/GA).
  - iii. If tie games occur during semi final or final single elimination format games during the ODSET competition, the tiebreakers in section "C" below will be used.
- C. Single elimination format qualifying playoff games tied at the end of regulation time will be decided as follows.
  - i. Five minute sudden death 5 on 5 overtime.
  - ii. Five minute sudden death 4 on 4 overtime.
  - iii. Five player shootout (home team choice to go first).
  - iv. Sudden death shootout. First unanswered goal wins. The entire player roster (except goalies) must be used before repeating any shooters.
  - v. There will be a one (1) minute time out between each overtime period.
  - vi. Any player with unserved penalty time at the end of the overtime periods will not be permitted to participate in either the five player shootout or the sudden death shootout.

#### **7. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULING:**

- A. The "Qualifying" playoff tournaments and ODSETs will be held before the USAH state tournaments.
- B. The Girls' division playoff tournaments will be scheduled one week before the youth divisions.