



# 2025-2026 Minnesota Hockey State Tournament Rules and Regulations

This tournament is sanctioned by Minnesota Hockey and conducted by a selected host who will act as Tournament Director, in accordance with a contract executed with Minnesota Hockey. All games will be played under and in accordance with the rules of USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey Youth Rules and Regulations.

**Dates:** March 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Rosters:** Please submit rosters with jersey numbers to the tournament chairperson that you are attending (**see the tournament bracket for this information**) and to Minnesota Hockey (jacobl@minnesotahockey.org) **as soon as you know you are qualified** or not later than by **Monday, March 2, 2026**.

Rosters will be limited to 20 players **Maximum of four (4) coaches**.

Only those listed as a coach or player on the team's USA Hockey Roster will be allowed in the players box during the game.

**Entry Fee:** \$700.00 per team. Payment must be received by the 1st game of tournament. Team entry fee is payable to the host association or the host district.  
**NOTE:** Failure to submit payment prior to the first game could result in that team's disqualification from the tournament.

<b>Spectator Fees:</b>	\$25.00 Tournament Pass	\$10.00 Senior and Student Daily Pass
	\$15.00 Daily Pass	Free 10 and under
	\$15.00 Senior and Student Tournament Pass	Free Armed Service Members (Veteran/Active Duty)

**Note:** Tournament passes from other State Tournaments are not transferable.

The tournament host will provide each participating team with free admission for each player and coach up to four (4) listed on the team's roster, plus the team manager.

**Credentials:** **The following items MUST be submitted by each team to the tournament chairperson for review and approval by the District Director or designee prior to their first tournament game. Failure to comply shall result in forfeiture of that team's first game.**

- > USA Hockey Player Roster Form(s) will have a computer-generated message on the roster (USA HOCKEY APPROVED CERTIFIED ROSTER 1T)
- > Junior Gold A & B and Junior Gold 16, must have a high school enrollment verification form that list each player.
- > Residency waivers for all players who are not members of the team's association based on the Participation Rule.
- > An approval letter from the Minnesota District Registrar for any player rostered in a younger age group than is implicit based on the player's birth date.

**Format:** The competition format will be in accordance with the format established by Minnesota Hockey. Tournament hosts have no authority to make modifications to the format, without the express permission of the Minnesota Hockey Tournament Chair and/or the applicable Vice President Region Coordinator. [Gold or Maroon Region]

**Awards:** Each player will receive a participation pin. Team trophies will be awarded. Medals will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

**Resurfacing:** Refer to Minnesota Hockey Handbook, page 40, (S) Ice Surfacing.

- Warm Ups:** Five (5) minutes before the start of each game.
- National Anthem:** To be played prior to the 1<sup>ST</sup> game each day, following the introduction of the teams. Both teams are to be on the ice, facing the flag, with helmets off.
- Playing Time:** Three, 15-minute periods. Refer to Minnesota Hockey Handbook, pages 38, ( I ) Playing Time for details on running time.
- Playing Rules:** USA Hockey Rules, as modified by Minnesota Hockey. Refer to Minnesota Hockey Handbook, especially page 33, VIII. **Playing Rules**, and page 37, X. **District, Region & State Tournaments**
- Penalties:** **Minor penalties shall be one and a half (1.5) minutes for Peewee/12U and two (2) minutes for Bantam/15U and up, per USA Hockey rules.**
- Time-Out:** Each team is allowed one time-out per USA Hockey rule 636 (f).
- Referees:** Refer to Minnesota Hockey Handbook, page 44, XIII. On Ice Officials. All on-ice officials will be registered with USA Hockey and will display the USA Hockey crest on their sweaters. All decisions of the referees are final.
- Medical:** Qualified medical personnel, as outlined in (L) page 38, of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook, will be present at each game.
- Uniforms:** Teams listed on top line of game pairings sheet will be designated the home team and will wear their light colored jerseys. Teams not having contrasting colored jerseys are required to notify the tournament chairperson prior to the start of the tournament.  
**Note:** Each team is required to bring both sets of jerseys to each game. Reference Minnesota Hockey Handbook, page 37, (G).
- Conduct A** Fighting during any game in this tournament will not be tolerated. Referees are instructed to eject any player who drops his/her stick or gloves or otherwise engages in fighting, regardless of provocation. Flagrant fighting, with deliberate action to injure, determined at the sole discretion of the Referee-in-charge, will result in the disqualification of the offending player for three games.
- Conduct B** This tournament will strictly enforce the policies by USA Hockey for Zero Tolerance, Sexual Abuse and Physical abuse. Any player, coach or fan that is ejected from any game for disputing the calls of referees and/or tournament officials, taunting players and/or coaches, using profanity and/or obscene gestures or any other acts of inappropriate conduct will be barred from entering the arena(s) for the balance of the tournament. Team Managers and/or coaches are responsible to communicate this ruling to their fans.
- Protests:** Refer to Section IX. Protests on page 37 of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook.
- Discipline:** Hearings for match or gross misconduct penalties, player eligibility questions or other issues will be addressed by an appointed tournament discipline committee. Refer to R. Tournament Discipline Committee on page 39/40 of the Minnesota Hockey Handbook.

**State criteria and rules compiled by:**

Mark Dragish, Minnesota Hockey Tournaments Committee Chair; Phone 218-791-0229  
Steve Gapinski, Vice President Maroon; Phone 612-386-9337  
Pete Hill, Vice President Gold; Phone 218-428-1497