

Shamrock Adult Recreational Hockey Tournament

Official Tournament Rules

Sanctioning

This tournament is sanctioned by **USA Hockey** and all games will be played under current USA Hockey Adult Playing Rules unless otherwise stated below.

1. Divisions

The tournament will consist of two adult recreational divisions:

Upper Division (Competitive Recreational)

- Intended for experienced adult players
- Faster pace, higher skill level

Lower Division (Recreational / Beginner–Intermediate)

- Intended for true recreational-level players
- Emphasis on balance, safety, and sportsmanship

The Tournament Director reserves the right to **move teams or players** to ensure competitive balance.

2. Player Eligibility

1. All players must:

- Be **18 years of age or older**
 - Be **currently registered with USA Hockey**
2. Players may only roster on **one team** in the tournament.
 3. All players must appear on the official team roster prior to their first game.
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3. Player Rating & Roster Composition (Lower Division)

To preserve the recreational nature of the **Lower Division**, the following roster restrictions apply:

- Players rated “**C**” (or equivalent mid-level adult classification) may make up **no more than 30% of a team’s roster**.
- Roster size is calculated using the **maximum rostered players**, not players dressed per game.
- Example:
 - 15-player roster → maximum of **4 C-rated players**
 - 18-player roster → maximum of **5 C-rated players**
- Players rated above “C” (B, A, collegiate, professional) are **not permitted** in the Lower Division.

Failure to comply may result in:

- Player removal
 - Game forfeiture
 - Team removal from the tournament without refund
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4. Upper Division Player Restrictions

- No current professional players
 - No NCAA Division I or Major Junior players within the past **5 years**
 - Tournament Director retains discretion on borderline cases
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5. Game Format

- **Game length:** 45 minutes
 - **Periods:** Two (2) 20 minute runtime periods
 - **Warm-up:** 4 minutes
 - **Period Break:** 1 minute
 - Ice resurfaces are scheduled as required by the facility
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6. Scoring & Standings

- Win: 2 points
- Tie: 1 point
- Loss: 0 points

Tie-Breakers (in order):

1. Head-to-head result
2. Goal differential (maximum ± 5 per game)
3. Goals for
4. Least goals against

- 5. Coin toss
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7. Overtime & Playoffs

- Championship games only
 - 5-minute sudden-death overtime (3-on-3)
 - If still tied, a 3-player shootout
 - Sudden-death shootout rounds thereafter
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8. Rules of Play

- **Non-checking hockey**
 - Body contact consistent with adult recreational standards permitted
 - **Automatic icing**
 - Slap shots permitted unless restricted by facility policy
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9. Penalties & Discipline

- All USA Hockey penalties apply
- **Fighting:** automatic game misconduct, tournament ejection, and possible USA Hockey discipline
- **Game misconduct:** second offense results in tournament suspension
- **Match penalties:** immediate removal and report to USA Hockey

10. Mercy Rule

- Maximum goal differential recorded for standings: **±5 goals**

11. Officials

- All games officiated by **USA Hockey–registered officials**
- Officials' decisions are final and not subject to protest

12. Protests

- Judgment calls are not protestable
- Any tie breaker and placement decisions are at the discretion of the tournament director and are not protestable.

13. Tournament Authority

The Tournament Director has final authority over:

- Division placement
- Player eligibility disputes
- Schedule changes
- Disciplinary matters not explicitly covered

14. Sportsmanship

This is an **adult recreational fundraiser tournament**. Unsportsmanlike conduct by players, coaches, or spectators may result in removal from the event.