

Buckeye Travel Hockey League 2026 Seeding Game Rules (Updated 7/26/26)

The goal of the seeding tournament is to ensure that each division is competitive within their division. The Tournament Committee and Age Group Commissioners will determine and announce the placement for each team within one week of conclusion of the tournament.

1. All games will be two 12-minute periods running time. **The clock does not stop for any reason, including injury.** The tournament is on a very tight schedule and has to keep moving.
2. 2-minute warm-up before first period
3. 60-second intermission between periods. Teams switch ends for the 2nd period.
4. No time outs.
5. No overtime or shoot-outs. Games may end in a tie.
6. No line changes at whistles except after goals.
7. Game misconducts will result in player suspension for the remainder of the tournament, or first scheduled league game for that team if penalty occurs in last preseason tournament game. **Coaches must curtail any dangerous behavior.**
8. The first misconduct penalty (2 & 10 - Check from Behind, Boarding, etc..) is suspension from the current game. The 2nd misconduct penalty for a player results in suspension for the remainder of the tournament. If the 2nd 2 & 10 occurs in the team's last game, the player is suspended for the first scheduled league game for that team.
9. Two major penalties results in suspension from the remainder of the tournament. If the 2nd major penalty occurs in the last game the player is suspended for the first scheduled league game for that team.
10. Three penalties – suspension from current game.
11. All minor penalties result in the player being removed from ice, put on the bench and miss at least 1 shift. **It is the coach's responsibility to monitor this.**
12. Double rostered players must be reported to the Division Commissioner by Friday September 11, 2026 at 11:59pm EDT, along with information about why they are being double rostered.
13. All teams are required to be USA Hockey certified with the approved roster by Friday September 11, 2026 at 11:59pm EDT.
14. All other USA Hockey rules will be enforced.
15. **Teams must report which players are absent from Seeding tournament and indicate any high end "game changing" player who is not playing.**
16. **Each team is responsible for their GameSheet roster and must make sure all players who are not playing are marked that way in GameSheet.**

Misc. Information

- There will be a Tournament Director available for each rink.
- Home team will wear lite colors and the visiting team will wear dark. Please bring both jerseys and communicate with the team you are playing. If they play ahead of you and are in dark, but are the home team for your game you may need to wear lite colors.
- The home team will be required to provide 1 person to handle GameSheet and one person to operate the clock during the games.
- The person operating GameSheet will need to keep track of penalties, goals, and shots on goal (a shot on goal means the puck would have gone in if the goalie was not there. Shots blocked by other players, shots wide or over the net, or pucks off the posts or crossbar are NOT shots on goal). All teams should bring their iPad to the Tournament for scoring and check-in with the local Tournament Director before each game.
- All teams must have 10 players and a goalie to start the game. **(Failure to have the minimum required players will result in a \$250.00 fine)**
- BTHL recommends equal ice time for all players.
- Games may be shortened to stay on schedule, at the discretion of the Tournament Director.