



**RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOCKEY FEDERATION**

POSTSEASON RULES

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 2, 2026

IPAD SCORING KEY

ipad-rmhf-co

Please make sure to finalize game



SECTION 4 – POSTSEASON RULES

4.1 SEEDING. Seeding for the post season playoffs will be determined by League Standings according to GAMESHEETS including any tie breakers. The cut-off date for rankings is determined by the RMHF Board of Directors and set during the January Meeting.

- a. Higher seed is the home team for all playoff games.
- b. Home team will wear white jerseys, the visiting team will wear dark jerseys.
- c. Home team is responsible for operating the clock and electronic scoring. If the Home team is from out of state, the visiting team will be responsible for clock and electronic scoring.

4.2 GAME RULES

a. **GAME LENGTH.** Game length will be the same as the regular season as stated in Section 2 of the RMHF Policies and Procedures.

- (i) 10U - three periods, 12:01 minutes stop time each period, 1:30 minor penalties, 5 minute major penalties, 10 minute misconduct penalties.
- (ii) 12U - three periods, 14:00 minutes stop time each period, 1:30 minor penalties, 5 minute major penalties, 10 minute misconduct penalties.
- (iii) 14U Travel - three periods 14 minute stop time each period. 2:00 minor penalties, 5 minute major penalties and 10 minute misconducts penalties

b. **RUN CLOCK.** At any time during the game where there is a goal differential of 5 or more there will be a run clock until the goal differential is 4 or less. Run clock will continue during all penalties when run clock rules are in effect.

b. **PENALTY LENGTH.** Penalty length will be the same as the regular season as stated in Section 2 of the RMHF Policies and Procedures.-(See above)

4.3 **GAME PLAY.**

- a. Only coaches, players and teams listed on the teams USA Hockey's official roster shall be allowed on the bench.
- b. Spectators must view the games from the designated area of the playoff site. USA Hockey STAR program guidelines for parent, player, coach and other spectator behavior shall be enforced by the on-ice officials and the host tournament director and staff.
- c. Each team should be prepared to provide a person to run the penalty box for their respective team. The host association reserves the right to provide all off-ice officials and may refuse requests for team reps to run the penalty box. If one team has a team representative, then the other team should be allowed one person as well.
- d. Electronic Scoring System (ESS) with an accompanied paper scoresheet shall be used to score the game. If ESS is not available at game time, then the game should be entered as soon as possible at the conclusion of the game.
- e. Each team should have both home and away jerseys available.
- f. The higher seed will be the home team and wear their white or light jersey. The away team will wear their dark jersey.
- g. USA Hockey, CAHA and RMHF rules will apply.
- h. All team members and coaches must be present 45-minutes before the scheduled start of the game.
- i. Each team should be ready to play ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
- j. A forfeit shall be declared if one of the teams is unavailable or unwilling to play. USA Hockey rules apply to a minimum number of players. If a team is late for the start of a game for whatever reason, they need to contact a member of the Playoff Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee will determine any delay to start the game.
- k. There will be a 5-minute warm-up to start when the officials take the ice.
- l. There will be no curfewed games.
- m. Host associations are required to allow for overtime and award presentations in their scheduling.
- n. Each team will be allowed one (1) timeout per game in regulation play. There will be no timeouts in overtime.

4.4 **OVERTIME.** Overtime shall be a 5-minute 3v3 sudden death format. Goalies do not switch ends.

- a. If a penalty is taken in overtime, the team with the power play will add a player to the ice for each penalty, until playing 5-on-3 and penalties will stack.
- b. If still tied after overtime, a 3-man shootout will take place.
 - (i) HOME team chooses to shoot first or second.
 - (ii) If still tied after the shootout, a sudden death shootout will be played until a winner is determined.
 - (iii) Players serving a penalty at the end of the overtime period are not eligible for the shootout.
 - (iv) No player can shoot a second time until all eligible players have been used.

4.5 **NATIONAL ANTHEM.** Members that are hosting post season games will make a good faith effort to play the National Anthem prior to the league Championship games only.

4.6 **AWARD CEREMONY.** A short Award Ceremony will take place after the Championship game to award the Finalist and Championship winner banners. No individual awards or MVP awards will be presented.

4.7 **ADDITIONAL CHANGES.** Each season, the RMHF Board of Directors may make additional determinations regarding the playoff selection and championship tournament format. Any additional selection processes and/or tournament format determinations will be posted to the RMHF website as a separate document and distributed to Members and Guest Programs as soon as practicable. RMHF reserves the right to make changes as necessary to comply with continuing changes in youth hockey.