



CSAHA Tournament Rules

Updated 08/05/2026

Rules apply to:

Colorado Cup Tournament December 31, 2026- January 3, 2027

Pikes Peak Recreational Tournament January 15-18, 2027

President's Day Tournament February 12-15, 2027

Safety, Equipment & Compliance

1. Except as altered by Tournament Rules & Format, USA Hockey rules will govern hockey play. All on-ice officials will be registered with USA Hockey.
2. In accordance with USA Hockey regulations, all participating players are required to wear approved USA Hockey protective equipment including approved neck laceration protector (NLP) during all games and practices.
3. IN-GAME ACTION : Rule enforcement will be the same as any other protective equipment violation - the first violation will result in a player substitution and a team warning. Any subsequent protective equipment violations by the team during the game will result in a misconduct penalty. If a player loses their neck laceration protector during play, it is treated the same as a mouthpiece. Play will continue until the next stoppage, then the player must replace the equipment or undergo a substitution. Hanging throat protectors for goaltenders are not designed to prevent lacerations from a skate blade and are not a substitute for a neck laceration protector.
4. Forfeits – Per CAHA's Policies and Procedures, any team that enters the tournament and fails to appear on time for a scheduled game (forfeits the game) or any team who fails to provide a valid roster (signed and sealed by their appropriate USA Hockey Registrar) to the Tournament Director prior to the first game of the tournament will be subject to: 1) forfeit all tournament games as determined by the tournament director; 2) pay for all expenses, including but not limited to referee fees and ice costs for each forfeited game; and 3) denied entry in any Colorado tournaments for the remainder of the season and any approved travel permits will be rescinded. Additionally, if a team forfeits any of its games, and becomes involved in any tie-breaking formula to determine its eligibility to advance to the next level of play, the team forfeits all games in the round robin play and the games are recorded as 1-0 victories for the non-offending team.

Tournament Operations & Gameplay

Division	Period Length	Minor Penalty	Major Penalty	Misconduct Penalty	Curfew
10U	12:01	1:30	5:00	10:00	60
12U	12:01	1:30	5:00	10:00	60
14U	14:00	2:00	5:00	10:00	75
14U AA	15:00	2:00	5:00	10:00	75
16U	15:00	2:00	5:00	10:00	75
18U	15:00	2:00	5:00	10:00	75
MERCY RULES - Game Clock will run for the following goal differential in a game					
6 goals or more in the 1st period					
5 goals or more in the 2nd period					
4 goals or more in the 3rd period					

1. Teams will plan to travel around the dates of the tournament with games starting the morning of the first day of the tournament, games may start as early as 6:00 am during the tournament. There will be no schedule changes to accommodate team travel. All CSAHA Tournaments are Stay to Play (the only exceptions are teams 80 miles or less from the tournament locations.) Teams that are 80 miles or less are not required to purchase a block of rooms but if any families associated with that team do stay in hotels they must go through the stay and play tournament contact. No buy-out option is offered for teams, and failure to comply with the stay-to-play requirement may result in a team being removed from the tournament registration. Teams should have Home (light) and Away (dark) jerseys. The home team will wear light colored jerseys.
2. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of four (4) games and may play up to six (6) games depending on division size and tournament format. Game pucks will be provided. TEAM ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR WARM-UP PUCKS.
3. Teams may only play at or above their USA Hockey registered level unless approved by our Hockey and Tournament Director. An official, registrar-signed USA Hockey roster must be provided prior to the tournament that verifies the official level of the team. The USA Hockey registration is the only means of determining tournament division placement. Every effort will be made to have teams placed in the appropriate division for level of play.
4. CSAHA reserves the right to determine the number of teams accepted into each division and to place teams in divisions deemed appropriate for competitive balance.
5. The number of games is determined by the number of teams in each division. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of four (4) games and a maximum of six (6) games.
6. There will be no ice makes during the games. There will be a three-minute warm-up period before each game.
7. The curfew will be enforced for all games except semi-finals and championship games. Curfew start time begins when teams start warmups regardless of scheduled game time. Time will be added to curfew for games where the National Anthem is played.
8. NO TIMEOUTS ALLOWED. There will be one minute maximum break between each period.
9. If a game is in curfew time and the score of the game is a 2-goal difference or less the clock will revert to stop clock in the final 2 minutes of the game.
10. The format will be round robin with a championship game at each level. All teams, players, and coaches must be registered with USA Hockey.
11. Games will start early if ice is available. Teams should be dressed and ready to be on the ice fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If a team is not prepared to play the game 15 minutes to the scheduled starting time of the game and/or refuses to play a scheduled tournament game, the team forfeits the game. See the note above regarding game forfeitures.
12. No noisemakers including cow bells or blow horns will be allowed in rinks.
13. Team and individual awards will be given for the 1st place team in each division and individual awards will be given to the 2nd and 3rd place teams (3rd place awards are only given in Presidents' Day Tournament). At the time of awards for Championship games, one member from the team may come on the ice for pictures and then additional pictures can be taken off the ice in the rink area.
14. Points will be awarded as follows: 2 points for a win, 0 points for a loss, 1 point for a tie.
15. When calculating Goal Differential a maximum five (5) goal differential per game will be used!!!
16. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES: Ties which exist at the conclusion of a round robin or position round will be broken using the following criteria (in order until the tie is broken).
 - a. If ONLY Two (2) teams are tied, the winner of the head-to-head game will win the tiebreaker. If the head-to-head game ended in a tie, the following criteria will be followed in order:
 - b. If Three (3) or more teams are tied, the following criteria will be followed in order:
 - i. Most Wins in all round robin games
 - ii. Goal Differential in all round robin games(When calculating Goal Differential a maximum five (5) goal differential per game will be used!!!)
 - iii. Goals Against in all round robin games
 - iv. Fewest Penalty Minutes in all round robin games
 - v. Most Periods Won in all round robin games
 - vi. Coin Flip

17. Semi-Final and Championship games will not end in a tie. If a semi-final or championship game is tied at the end of regulation time, a 5-minute (stop time) sudden-death overtime period will be played. This will be a 3 on 3 overtime period. If the game remains tied after the overtime period, a shoot-out will decide the outcome. For the shootout, each team will select three (3) shooters and a goaltender from their roster. Shooters will alternate taking penalty shots at the opponent's goaltender. The team with the most goals after three shots will be declared the winner. If still tied, the shootout will continue using an additional skater from each team until a winner is established. Teams must use all of the skaters on their roster before any of the previous chosen skaters are eligible to shoot again. Each team will take the same number of shots.

Registration, Safesport & Administrative Policies

1. All US teams, players, and coaches must be registered with USA Hockey and provide the tournament with a USA Hockey Roster and USA Hockey Roster link as well as bring the roster labels to the tournament for use with Game Sheets the scoring modality for the tournament starting this year through CAHA. That roster must include at least one Team Manager, and all coaches that are going to be in attendance at the tournament to comply with the new Safe Sport policies. Foreign teams must be registered with their federation. A credentials check, to include a roster check, will occur prior to the start of the tournament for each team; this will be done by email prior to arrival at the tournament. Team managers provide the following documents to the tournament director no later than 30 days prior to the start of the tournament.
2. USA Hockey or Hockey Canada certified player roster and roster link
3. Application with full contact information/signatures
4. Out of state US teams – host associations do NOT need to check travel permits.
5. Canadian teams will need to submit a travel permit at least 14 days prior to the tournament.
6. The tournament will be using CAHA's Game Sheets so it's important to have the USAH rosters for the tournament schedule.
7. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make final decisions in terms of interpreting the tournament rules and resolving issues or disputes as necessary. Any protests will be subject to a \$200 nonrefundable administrative fee. The protest must be written and filed with the Tournament Director within two hours of the conclusion of the game in question. The Tournament Committee will be the convening authority and will make the final decision. The decisions of the Tournament Committee are final and not subject to appeal. Protests on Referee Calls during the game will not be considered.
8. To obtain a locker room before each game, a team representative must check in at the rink manager table and surrender car keys. Locker rooms will be checked before and after each competition. Lockers rooms damaged or trashed will result in a \$200 fine or costs of the damages, whichever is higher. An approved locker room monitor must be present to receive keys.
9. Fighting will not be tolerated. Any player penalized for fighting will be expelled from the tournament.
10. Teams selected to play are required to stay at official CSAHA sponsored hotels and book through Traveling Teams. Lodging information will be posted on the website as it becomes available. Failure to do so will result in the team not being allowed to play.
11. Neither the tournament nor the rinks are responsible for injuries. It is the responsibility of the team manager to have applicable USA Hockey injury reports and insurance forms available in the event of an injury.

Updated SafeSport Tournament Rules

1. The tournament host must have a list of event volunteers and staff that includes their member registration number, name, email, and expected role in the event. (The Tournament Director will ensure that all Rink Director and Tournament Staff are in compliance with this requirement)
2. Any team members (coaches, players, and managers) who are required to complete SafeSport Training and/or a Background Screen will only be allowed on a roster if they have completed all requirements. Tournament officials may only accept approved official USA Hockey rosters to confirm compliance with Safe Sport requirements. (As USAH rosters are turned in by teams as part of registration this will meet this requirement, all coaches will need to be rostered to make sure that this compliance is made.)

3. Officials/referees who are required to complete a SafeSport Training and/or a Background Screen will not receive their registration card and crest for their jersey without completing all certification requirements. Tournaments may not use officials/referees who have not completed applicable certification requirements for that season. (The refs used for CSAHA tournaments will be from the Colorado Referee Association that is USAH compliant)
4. Tournament volunteers/staff who will have regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes must have completed applicable SafeSport Training and a Background Screen (instructions below). The event should have a credentialing system for all volunteers/staff, ensuring that only volunteers/staff that have completed SafeSport Training and have an approved USA Hockey Background Screen will receive a credential. (This is explained above in the Rink Director List)
5. If security is hired through a vendor or arena security personnel are used, they do not need SafeSport Training. However, if security consists of the tournament host's volunteers, they need SafeSport Training and a Background Screen. (Security is at the discretion of the venue and therefore in compliance with this requirement)
6. If medical staff are there to only treat potential on-ice injuries and not for ongoing treatment, they do not need SafeSport Training or a Background Screen. If medical staff is there for ongoing treatment (such as taping, rubdowns, icing, etc.), they need to be SafeSport Trained and Screened. (The medical staff will be for only treating on-ice injuries and not for ongoing treatment)
7. Tournament scorekeepers or penalty box operators scheduled to work designated shifts should be SafeSport Trained and Screened. Otherwise, tournament scorekeepers and penalty box operators who are working single games (such as parents pulled from the stands or parents/volunteers scheduled for random, individual time slots) need to be aware of the MAAPP, but do not need SafeSport Training or a Screen. It is recommended that a copy of the MAAPP be available at the scorekeepers' table. (There will be a copy of MAAPP at each rink and due to the volunteers for scoring and time keeping will be for single or random games training and screening is not required)
8. The tournament host should not allow day of registration for any person who will be in a role that has regular contact with or authority over Minor Athletes. If an exception is necessary, the person must first be registered with USA Hockey, Safe Sport Trained, and Screened. The tournament host may not allow anyone suspended by USA Hockey or an Affiliate, or any person on the Center's Disciplinary Database (This rule will be enforced by the Tournament Director if a problem arises with any team)
9. The tournament host must ensure that locker room keys are only provided to a rostered adult for each participating team and should remind all teams that the USA Hockey Locker Room Policy requires at least one SafeSport Trained and Screened locker room monitor. (Locker room keys will be given to team managers, coaches, locker room monitors or any other Safe Sport screened adult for each team.)
10. The tournament host is responsible to ensure that these Protocols are followed at their tournament(s) and should have a tournament representative at each event site. (Rink Directors will be at each rink to represent the tournament and ensure the rules are followed.)