



NYSAHA – North Section

Revision Date: 9/10/2018

NYSAHA North Section Tournament Bound Hockey League

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES and REGULATIONS

ESTABLISHED 2017



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REVISION HISTORY

DATE	REVISION DESCRIPTION	REQUESTED BY	COMPLETED BY
8/1/17	Remove Tier III Girls from table in Section 3	G. Caswell	J. Mash
8/1/17	Add Title Page, TOC and Revision History	J. Mash	J. Mash
8/5/17	Changed Girls game time to 15 min – Section 10	M. Lamar	J. Mash
8/5/17	Removed details of tie breaker – use USA Hockey reference – Section 12	M. Lamar	J. Mash
8/5/17	Removed details of League Aggressive Play – use USA Hockey reference – Section 15	M. Lamar	J. Mash
9/6/18	Removed sectionals, remove schedulers meeting, renumbered sections, added website reference	North BOD	G. Caswell
9/10/18	Changed scheduled game date to 12/1	North BOD	G. Caswell



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NYSAHA NORTH SECTION TOURNAMENT BOUND HOCKEY LEAGUE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES and REGULATIONS EST 2017

The North Section Tournament Bound League , website within the Tech Valley Hockey League or "the League" is subject to all the rules, regulations and policies of the New York State Amateur Hockey Associations, Inc. (N.Y.S.A.H.A.) and U.S.A. Hockey Inc. The following rules and regulations may further restrict those rules.

- 1) **Membership:** The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the elected or appointed officers of the NYSAHA North Section Board of Directors.
- 2) **Season:** The Board of Directors shall determine the exact date of the season for all divisions, as designated by NYSAHA Guidebook.
 - A. Each team must meet ALL their league commitments. Any team and/or an association may be disqualified or suspended from the League by the Board, pending the outcome of a hearing, for not meeting their league commitment(s)
 - B. Playoffs, sectionals and championship tournaments take precedence over any other commitments and no association shall schedule other conflicting play during these times. NYSAHA North Section tournament schedule/locations will be set at the Fall Meeting, as managed by our NYSAHA North Section Tournament Coordinator.
- 3) **Registration**
 - A. All organizations must be members in good standing with USAH and NY State hockey to participate in the League
 - B. **Team Declaration:** Each Association shall inform the League of their intention to register a team and the division in which they will play on by the following dates:

Level	Date	Level	Date
Tier II 16U/18U	August 15 th	Tier III 16U/18U	September 15 th
Tier II 12U/14U	October 1 st	Tier III 12U/14U	November 1 st
Tier II G12U – G19U	November 1 st		

Final management and coordination of divisions will be subject to the NYSAHA North Section BOD.

- C. **Player/Team registration**
 - 1) All individual participants and teams in the league shall be properly registered with USA Hockey before the start of the league season.
 - 2) Participants and teams will adhere to the classifications of USA Hockey. The classifications of a player shall be determined by his/her age at midnight on December 31st prior to or during the current playing season
- 4) **Rosters**
 - A. General Information
 - 1) All Players, coaches and manager/volunteer/team rep must be registered with USAH, pay the appropriate fees and placed on an official USA Hockey Roster generated from the USAH Portal Registry. There is no charge to register Managers/volunteers.
 - 2) Teams will be identified by their roster Team ID # as well as the head coach.
 - 3) Prior to the start of the season, each coach and staff member must: have completed:
 - a) Background screening as per NYSAHA
 - b) USAH Age Appropriate Module(s) for the level they are coaching
 - c) USAH Safesport Training
 - d) **16U/18U (Midget) Coaches** must have their proper certification {module and registered for appropriate CEP} by August 1st of the current season. 12U/14U and G12U-G19U must register for their CEP classes by 11/1.
 - 4) Every team must have a minimum of (2) coaches listed on the roster for the season and a designated Manager.
 - 5) Each roster shall list the participants name and date of birth that are eligible to participate on that team. Participant signatures on rosters are NOT REQUIRED by USAH, NYSAHA or the League. The head coach and staff will also be listed on the roster with their required credentials. A copy of this roster form validated by the USA Hockey registrar must be **submitted to the NYSAHA North Section District Registrar - prior to the start of the first league game.** All rostered players must meet the criteria as listed in these rules and regulations.



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- 6) Each team may roster up to 20 players maximum at any given time including goaltenders and alternates (Maximum skaters is 18 excluding goaltenders).
 - 7) Player movement and roster changes cannot be made after December 31st of the current playing season for the 12U-14U/G12U-G19U. 16U and 18U levels will adhere to the current NYS Hockey and North Section rules on rostering at this level. Rosters for all midget teams {Tier I, Tier II and Tier III} will freeze on the first full weekend of November.
 - 8) Any team using an ineligible player(s) shall forfeit all league games in which such player(s) participated. An ineligible player shall include one who is not properly registered with USA Hockey.
 - B. **Final Rosters:** A roster must be submitted to the NYSAHA North Section District Registrar prior to the start of the season as well as submitted to the league before any league games are played. Final rosters must be submitted by December 31st of the current playing season to the league electronically by email. Exception 16U/18U- only changes to Coaches can be made until 12/31.
 - C. **Roster Changes:** The NYSAHA North Section District Registrar must be notified via the USAH Registration Portal at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to adding a new player or deleting a current player from the team roster. Associations are responsible for verifying roster changes have been made prior to the start of any Q-Game. Failure to do so can result in a forfeit.
- 5) **League Players:** All participants on teams must adhere to the proper registration requirements by USAH, NYSAHA and further outlined in this section.
- A. The participants and/or addition of players will not exceed the 18 skater limit as set forth by USA Hockey.
 - B. All changes will be final as of December 31st of the current playing season. No player changes on rosters will be allowed for any team after December 31st.
 - C. The player MUST be a member of the same organization
 - D. Movement should go up as per USA Hockey, not down. USA Hockey defines levels as “Tier I, Tier II, Tier III – House/Rec. Selection order should start with the same age classification (lower level team) first, and if not available, then move to the next younger age classification (next Tier down, house/Rec).”
 - E. All players must be age eligible to participate on the rostered team
 - F. Playing-Down is not allowed meaning overage players are not permitted to participate on younger teams
 - G. Can only be rostered on one tournament bound team
 - H. Any team(s) which begin league play and which have not registered with USAH and has not submitted a roster to the USAH registrar and the League shall forfeit all league games prior to proper registration.
 - I. Canadian born players may participate in the league once their USAH registration/transfer form and all credentials are in order per the USAH Guidebook,
- 6) **Game Rules for Tournament Bound Teams**
- A. Each Tournament Bound (TB) team must have competed as a team in at least twenty (20) Games from the approval date on the roster. Note that Girls 12U-19U (14/10) and 16U/18U Tier III must have completed (10/8) Games from the approval date on the roster.
 - B. Each player must have played in at least ten (10) games during the season with the Tournament bound team.
 - 1) Game Clarification: A game is a match played against another team, from another USA Hockey registered member organization, Hockey Canada or another IIHF member organization. This team must be of the same competitive level.
 - 2) All games must be officiated by USAH registered officials to be legal and shall consist of a minimum of two (2) periods.
 - C. For the 20/10 count toward a state tournament credentials review, the 1 – T form (roster) must be signed and validated by the USA Hockey registrar. The Season for 12U-14U begins September 1st of the current season and for Midgets 16U/18U begins on August 15th. The latter date will be used to determine credentials.
 - D. In order to be eligible for a State tournament, a team must complete its entire league schedule. If a tournament bound team fails to complete its league schedule, they no longer possess tournament bound status and are not eligible for a State or tournament as per NYSAHA Rules
- 7) **Record Keeping Responsibilities:**
- A. Each registered team shall have a team manager whose name, address and telephone number shall be sent out in the Hockey team registration and USA Hockey certified roster. The team manager, who may also be a head coach or assistant coach, shall be responsible for all record keeping of the team and shall have access to all documents necessary for credential review, tournaments, playoffs and championships. (Required forms can be obtained from the organization registrar and are also located on the NY Registrar website www.nyregistrar.com. Instructions on putting the credential book together can also be found on the NY Registrar website.)
 - B. **Required documents** for Credentials shall comply with USAH and NYSAHA requirements for TB teams. Consult www.nyregistrar.com or the current season guide book(s) for the complete list of requirements.



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8) League Play/Sectional Format

- A. Tier I, II, and III 16U/18U
 1. Teams will play (2) games against all teams that have declared to be tournament bound. Standings will determine the team or teams to represent the Northern Section in the state tournament. The number of teams depends on the number that declare: if greater than or equal to (4), (2) teams from the Northern Section will advance, if less than (4), the number of teams advancing is dependent on other considerations at the state level.
 2. Any level with (1) team declared by their deadline will have until Dec. 31 to change their rosters.
- B. Tier I, II, and III 12U/14U; Girls Tier I and II 12U/14U/16U/19U
 1. **Tier III ONLY** – Teams may only declare Tier III tournament bound status if their roster consists of greater than 90% of players that were registered with that association the previous season. Any exception to this must be approved by the North Section President & area Vice Presidents.
 2. If (9) or more teams declare to be tournament bound, the teams will be divided into two divisions based on geography for league play. Teams must play two games against each team in their division. The top (2) teams from each division will play in a (4) team sectional tournament to determine the teams to represent the North Section in the state tournament.
 3. If less than (9) teams declare to be tournament bound, each team will play (2) games against each tournament bound team. The standings will determine the team or teams to represent the Northern Section in the state tournament. The number of teams advancing may be dependent on other considerations at the state level. No sectional tournament will be played.

9) Home Team Responsibilities

- A. Supplying a suitable ice surface with proper equipment and gender equitable locker rooms for the game of ice hockey.
- B. Provide USA Hockey registered referees from an independent Referee Organization. Every home team shall arrange for the referees. Relatives of participants, coaches or team members should not be refereeing these games. It is also advised that younger referees are accompanied by a senior referee over the age of 21. Organizations are to communicate this with their assignor.
- C. Providing the proper playing time for each age group as defined in these rules.
 1. Any Association unable to provide the required ice times should bring the problem to the Board of Directors
 2. In order to aid in the completion of games, all teams will be limited to
 - a. A three (3) minute on ice warm-up immediately following the exit of the Zamboni. The referee will call delay of game on any team not ready to play three (3) minutes after the ice has been resurfaced. The offending team then has two (2) minutes before a second delay of game is called. If the team is not ready after two (2) more minutes, the game is forfeited.
 - b. Each team will be granted (1) one minute time-out per game
- D. To maintain order and good behavior of the spectators and rink personnel.
 1. The League holds each member team/association responsible for policing the conduct of the coach, player, spectator, and parents at sanctioned events (games/practices).
 2. If the member team/association fails to act, the League reserves the right to have any person who causes a disturbance removed from the playing area.
 3. Parents or spectators who interfere with any game or become rowdy, obnoxious, abusive or exercises unsportsmanlike conduct in any way may be ejected from the arena and may be barred from further participation with the League.
 4. The referee may hold up the game until such person(s) are removed. Incidents of this nature will be noted by the referee on the official scoresheet and referred to the disciplinary panel for any necessary action. from competition. In ice arenas where referees go through a public area to the locker room, a team official should accompany them.
- E. To maintain necessary facilities and personnel to ensure the prompt and competent treatment of injuries.
- F. To supply competent Off ice officials- see USAHOCKEY Off-Ice Officials Guidebook for more information. Away team has the option to supply a penalty box supervisor and a scorekeeper, and these officials are to be in place before the start of any game. The Off-Ice Officials responsibilities include:
 1. Knowledge of proper usage of the clock
 2. Proper procedure for keeping the scoresheet.
 3. Asking the referees to clarify any confusion with game procedures and penalties.
 4. To provide a qualified scorekeeper and timekeeper, penalty box supervisor and all needed facilities including an extra stopwatch, whistle and first aid kit.
- G. Score Reporting
 1. Each HOME TEAM ONLY will report the final score of the game using website protocol **within 24 hours**. Each team will submit the name of the person responsible for score reporting to the League Scheduler to gain access to the website.
 2. Any score discrepancies must be reported to the North Section Tournament Chairperson at NorthSection@Charter.Net, along with a copy of the scoresheet within 48 hours.
 3. For all games involving a game misconduct or match penalty, the original game score sheet must be emailed into the NYSAHA North Section RIC with 24 hours. All suspensions must be served in league qualifying games and/or the



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- 10) **Game Requirements:** In order for a League Game to be considered valid and recorded in our standings, it must meet the following:
- A. 12U/G12U (3) 15 minute periods
 - B. 14U/16U/18U/G14U/G16U/G19U (3) 15 minute periods
 - C. 2/5/10 minute penalties at ALL levels.
 - D. One minute break between each period (No ice re-surfacing required during the game).
 - E. All regular season league games must be **completed by 2/15**
 - F. Advancing teams must meet their 10/20, 10/14 or 8/10 game counts by two weekends prior to respective State Tournament.
- 11) **Forfeits**
- A. Forfeits – IF THERE IS A failure to show for a game without weather or transportation problems or extenuating circumstances, such game shall be declared a forfeit for the offending team. FOR THIS PURPOSE, FAILURE OF A TEAM TO REASONABLY CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS A WEATHER OR TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM WILL BE CONSIDERED A FORFEIT, AS DETERMINED BY THE NYSAHA North Section BOD. UNLESS THE NYSAHA North Section BOD HAS APPROVED IN ADVANCE THAT A GAME MAY BE RESCHEDULED, AND A TEAM DOES NOT SHOW, THE GAME SHALL BE A FORFEIT. For a “NO SHOW” forfeit in a league game, the offending team will receive a forfeit.
 - B. Postponement of games
 - 1. **Delays, weather conditions**

If unavoidable delays occur and games are postponed due to hazardous driving conditions, they must be rescheduled as soon as possible. FOR THIS PURPOSE, FAILURE OF A TEAM TO REASONABLY CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS A WEATHER OR TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM WILL BE CONSIDERED A FORFEIT, AS DETERMINED BY THE LEAGUE SCHEDULER. The home team is responsible for notifying the opposing team of the available date(s) and time(s) for the rescheduled game. The home team should contact the opponent and a rescheduled date and time must be made within seven days of postponement. If the game is not rescheduled in this time frame both teams will submit their entire schedule to the LEAGUE SCHEDULER. If the game is not played prior to the season's end, a forfeit will be awarded against the team causing the delay. The game does not have to be played within seven days.
 - 2. **Rescheduling of games**
 - a. A re-scheduled game MUST be re-scheduled with 7 days of the original game date. The last date to re-schedule any game is 1/6. NO requests after this date will be honored, unless approved by NYSAHA North Section BOD.
 - b. If the teams cannot agree to a date and time to play the game after a cancellation or unavoidable delay, both teams will be required to submit schedules to the league and the game will be scheduled by the League at their discretion. If ice has to be purchased the teams will split the cost.
 - 3. **The League may, at their discretion, extend or reduce the season to accommodate games postponed to inclement weather if deemed necessary.**
- 12) **Scoring/Tie-Breakers**
- A. NYSAHA has modified their district/state championship to fall in line with USAH, with all games being played to a winner using a 3 point scoring system. Teams that qualify for the NY District/State championships should be aware that the games played during the championships will be played to conclusion and the tiebreakers may be different. The NYSAHA North Sectional Tournament (if necessary) will be played, as outlined in the NYSAHA guide book.

Note: The League SCHEDULER and/or NYSAHA North Section board will not apply or advise on any tiebreakers until the season is over and a tie actually exists between two or more teams in a division.
 - B. A two point scoring system for standings to will be used for all qualifying games:
 - 1. Win – 2 points
 - 2. Tie – 1 point
 - 3. Loss – 0 points
 - C. Tie Breaking Policy – The League will utilize the tie breaking policy recommended by NYSAHA which is detailed in the USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook (the guidebook can be found on the NYSAHA website –www.nysaha.com).



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- 13) **League/Game Schedule**
- A. Each home team will be responsible for entering their game schedules online. All teams will verify their games for accuracy. Officials will be scheduled based the online schedule. Any changes within 7 days of the original scheduled date, including changes to time, location, date or qualifying game status **MUST** be communicated directly to the RIC to ensure proper coverage by qualified officials. **ALL GAMES MUST BE SCHEDULED AND ONLINE BY 12/1.**
 - B. Games listed in the official master schedule shall be reviewed by each member team or association to assure that schedule is accurate. Discrepancies must be reported to the League Scheduler within seven (7) days of publication.
 - C. Division Parity - The NYSAHA North Section BOD Shall have the authority to review the competitive balance of a division after the first five regular league games of the current season. The NYSAHA North Section BOD may re-assign teams to other divisions if it is determined that it is necessary to restore and maintain competitive balance.
- 14) **Game Procedure:** In the interest of promoting, demonstrating, ensuring good sportsmanlike behavior, and in an effort to adopt uniform game procedures, the following procedure shall be followed in each league game:
- A. End of Game - At the conclusion of the game, each team will line up for the handshake. After the handshake, each team shall proceed directly to their respective bench area. The visiting team shall proceed first to their locker room upon instructions from the Referee. Once the visiting team enters their locker room the Home team shall proceed directly to their locker room upon instructions from the referee.
 - B. Any player, coach or team official who fails to follow the procedure outlined herein and/or fails to leave the ice in a sportsmanlike orderly manner, causes an altercation before, during or after a game may incur an additional penalty and/or suspension(s).
- 15) **Discipline: Game Misconduct's and Match Penalties:**
- A. It is mandatory that a legible copy of the original game scoresheet involving Game Misconduct's, and/or Match Penalties in **league, non-league, or tournament games in or out of the League,** shall be emailed to the NYSAHA North Section RIC within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the game.
- 16) **League Aggressive Play Policy:** The league will follow the policies defined in the USA Hockey Rulebook – www.usahockeyrulebook.com. It is the responsibility of each association and coach to read and understand the USA Hockey Rulebook. Progressive suspensions will apply to league games.
- 17) **Protests**
- A. A protest may only be lodged by an Association's President. No protest may be lodged by a coach, manager or parent regardless of their position.
 - B. The official USA Hockey playing rules shall be used. No Protests shall be permitted on the playing rules or for referee calls or penalties assessed before, during or after the game are not allowed.
 - C. The Association President shall notify the NYSAHA North Section BOD of the impending protest within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
 - D. All the facts of the incidents, including why the protest is being filed and the desired outcome need to be stated precisely in the protest. Do not be vague in any statements.
 - E. Both parties will be notified of the decision of the NYSAHA North Section BOD within 10 days.
- 18) **System of Discipline:** The system of disciplinary action in the League shall be in accordance with USAH and in the manner as hereinafter set forth
- A. Each season there will be a Disciplinary Director and Panel selected by the NYSAHA North Section BOD
 - B. The Panel shall meet, hear, try and determine all disciplinary matters and protests referred to them by the League under the rules. Provided that there are matters to be heard, the Panel shall meet as needed.
 - C. If a disciplinary matter or protest involves an accused person or team from the same association of a Panel Member, then that Member is excused from sitting in on that matter and will be replaced for that matter by the Executive Committee.
 - D. The Panel shall have jurisdiction to conduct a "closed session" hearing, determine the facts and rules that apply, determine the punishment to be handed out to any offenders or the disposition of game protests or other matters which come before it under the rules. In hearing evidence, the Panel shall give all parties a reasonable opportunity to present verbally, without delay, evidence on its behalf by common sense and fair play in light of the gravity of the offense and the urgency of the



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decision making process. Only Committee members will question any person(s) appearing at the hearing or make any comments during the presentations.

- E. The Panel shall have the authority to impose the following disciplinary action:
1. Suspension of any person, team or Association from any or all League activities i.e. coaching or managing any team, refereeing, playing in, being present in any capacity at any game or activity for any period of time not exceeding one year.
 2. Determine the outcome of any game protest and apply the appropriate rule to determine the ultimate disposition of the protest such as game forfeiture, game continuation (and the circumstances hereunder as to scheduling, costs involved and who shall pay etc.) and apply any other decision concerning such decisions reasonable and is justified by the facts and circumstances.
- F. The NYSAHA North Section BOD shall designate a time and place for the matter to be heard and shall see to it that the person, team representative, Association and/or referee complaining receive notice of the hearing. Any player appearing may appear with either coach or manager of his team. Only persons accused may actually appear personally and this may be dispensed with by permission of the NYSAHA North Section BOD
- G. Written statements may be submitted. Testimony may be taken under oath or otherwise.
- H. The accuser or person instigating a protest bears the burden of proving his accusation or protest to the satisfaction of the Panel.
- I. The hearing shall be conducted informally with evidence presented first by the party filing the protest, followed by the party against which the protest was brought. The Panel may deviate from this procedure if in their discretion it is fair and practical to do so.
- J. After hearing the evidence the Panel shall privately deliberate and shall have 10 days to establish a decision. However, where possible the decision will be made immediately upon the close of evidence to the parties present. In any event, the Panel shall reach and publish their decision within one 10 days after hearing the evidence. All decisions shall be summarized and forwarded to the President, and executive board for their review.
- K. Decision shall be reached by a majority vote of the Panel.
- L. Appeals of the decision of the panel shall be made to the NYSAHA North Section President for further consideration within 20 days.
- M. A one-year probation is automatically given to anyone that comes before the disciplinary panel.

18) Supplementary Discipline

A. According to USA HOCKEY Rule 410, Supplementary Discipline, the proper disciplinary authority may, at the conclusion of the game, at their discretion, investigate any incident that occurs in connection with any game. **Pending the outcome of a hearing, the disciplinary authority may assess additional suspensions for any offense committed before, during the course of a game, or any aftermath thereof by a player or Team Official**, whether or not such offense has been penalized by the Referee. For the League, the proper disciplinary authority is the NYSAHA North Section BOD Committee.

B. Fighting – all fighting penalties in League play before during or after the game shall incur a (2) two game suspension to the offending player(s) in addition to the USAH suspension.

*C. **Refusal to Continue Play** Any team playing in a league, exhibition, or tournament game that leaves the ice during the game, shall be assessed a match penalty by the game referee under USAH rule 632. In League games any team who is assessed a match penalty under this rule shall forfeit the game by a score 1-0 if ahead at the time, or by the official score at that time, if the team leaving the ice is behind.*

D. In order to preserve as far as possible, the integrity of amateur hockey and the League, any recourse to the courts or legal action by a member or individual before and/or during all the rights of the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of this corporation have been exhausted, shall be considered ungentlemanly conduct entailing the immediate suspension and disqualification of any such member or individual(s). Refer to USA Hockey, Inc., Bylaws, Suspensions and Resolution of Disputes for additional information.

The NYSAHA North Section BOD reserves the right to change and modify these rules at any time to promote the best interest of hockey in our Section.



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Appendix

North Section Tournament Bound League Guidelines Summary Information

Tier I, II and III Youth 16U & 18U

-Teams declare TB status by

Tier I & Tier II 8/15

Tier III 9/15

-Teams will play 2 games against all teams that have declared TB status.

-League games will replace sectionals, teams will advance based on league standings.

-Games must be completed by Sunday November 4 (Sunday before high school)

-Rosters will be frozen the same Sunday before high school starts (1st full weekend in November)

-If an ineligible player (player not on the USA Hockey roster at the time of a game) plays, the game will not count as a qualifying game for the state tournament and the team can be disqualified from League play.

-Any level with 1 team declared by their deadline will have until Dec 31 to change their rosters.

Tier I,II and III Youth 12U & 14U; Girls Tier I and II 12U, 14U, 16U, 19U

-Tier III ONLY-Teams may only declare Tier 3 TB status if their roster consists of greater than 90% of players that were registered with that association the previous season. Any exception to this must be approved by the North Section President & area VP's.

-Tier I & II 12U & 14U declare TB status by 10/1

-Tier III 12U & 14U, All Tier II Girls declare TB status by 11/1

-Rosters can be changed & teams can withdraw until December 31, 2017

-If an ineligible player (player not on the USA Hockey roster at the time of a game) participates, the game will not count as a qualifying game for the state tournament and the team can be disqualified from League play.

-Teams will be divided into two divisions based on geography if 9 or more teams declare for league play. The top 2 teams from each division will play a 4 team sectional.

-Teams must play two games against all teams that have declared TB status in their division.

-Qualifying games must be completed by the end of the weekend 2 weeks prior to their respective sectional tournament or 2/15, whichever is earlier.

-9 teams or greater, 4 team sectional tournament held 2 weeks prior to states

-8 teams or fewer Q games will be one division, standings determine advancing teams

-All teams will play two qualifying games against all other teams.