



2024-2025

**DISTRICT AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENT GUIDEBOOK**

- A sufficient amount of ice time shall be provided to comply with the regulations which permit a maximum number of games per day.
- All State Championship Tournaments need to be completed by the date set by the State Playoff Committee.
- Make sure that the onsite District representative(s) and each team has the State Championship Tournament printed set of rules before the playoffs begin. Reference the online information prepared for each team on the Information for Entrant page (MAHA.org; then Tournaments; State Playoffs). MAHA representatives and local host chairpersons should meet prior to the start of the playoffs to discuss any questions that they may have regarding rules and procedures.

C. PAIRINGS

Formula for Non-Seeded State Playoff Pairing (8 Teams)

	National Division	American Division
2025 Districts	2, 4, 7, 8	1, 3, 5, 6

Note: District 1 is filled by the host team.

Formula for Seeded State Playoff Pairing (8 Teams)

	National Division	American Division
2025 Seeding	2, 3, 6, 7	1, 4, 5, 8

If there are less than eight (8) teams entered, the State Playoff Committee will determine the pairings.

- Youth Tier III will be a non-seeded tournament.
- Tier 1 Youth tournaments will be seeded by the MAHA Home/Away Game Series.
- Tier 1 Girls' tournaments will be seeded by the MAHA Home/Away Game Series.
- All Youth Tier II tournaments will be seeded by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.
- All Tier II and Tier III Girls' tournaments are seeded based on the league record in the MGHL. For those teams not in the MGHL, the win loss record will be used to seed. Win/loss information need not be the sole criteria considered. Seeding will be done by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.
- Non-Varsity High School Division 1 and Division 2 will be seeded by a sub-committee of the State Playoff Committee.

D. SUBSTITUTE GOALKEEPERS

1. A team may pick up a substitute goalie from within its own Association or District if it does not already have a second goalie registered. For non-National bound categories, the substitute goalie must be registered in the current season on a team of equal or lower age Classification and equal or lower team Classification. For National bound categories, the substitute goalie must be registered on a lower Classification team.
2. A substitute goalie, under such circumstances, may be used only in case of injury or illness to the regular goalie.
3. For all National bound State Championship Tournaments, there are no substitute goalies allowed.

MAHA Substitute Goalie Chart

Age Classification	Classification	Division	Category	Substitute Goalie Option (Must be the same or lower than shown below)
YOUTH NATIONAL BOUND				
17 & 18	18U	AAA	Tier I	18U Tier II
17 & 18	18U	AAA	Tier II	18U Tier III (BB)
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier I	16U Tier II
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier II	16U Tier III (B)
15 Only	15 Only	AAA	Tier I	16U Tier II (Must be 15 years old)
13 & 14	14U	AAA	Tier I	14U Tier II
13 Only	13 Only	AAA	Tier I	14U Tier II (Must be 13 years old)
13 & 14	14U	AA	Tier II	14U Tier III
TRAVEL TEAMS NON-NATIONAL BOUND				
13 & 14	13U	A	Travel	13U
11 & 12	12U	AAA	Tier I	12U
11 & 12	12U	AA	Tier II	12U AA
11 & 12	11U	A	Travel	12U A
9 & 10	10U	AAA	Tier I	10U
9 & 10	10U	AA	Tier II	10U AA
9 & 10	9U	A	Travel	10U A
7 & 8	8U			8U
YOUTH NON-NATIONAL BOUND				
17 & 18	18U	BB	Tier III	Any BB team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
15 & 16	16U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
13 & 14	14U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
11 & 12	12U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
GIRLS' NATIONAL BOUND				
17, 18, & 19	19U	AAA	Tier I	19U Tier II
17, 18, & 19	19U	AA	Tier II	19U Tier III
15 & 16	16U	AAA	Tier I	16U Tier II
15 & 16	16U	AA	Tier II	16U Tier III
13 & 14	14U	AAA	Tier I	14U Tier II
13 & 14	14U	AA	Tier II	14U Tier III

Age Classification	Classification	Division	Category	Substitute Goalie Option (Must be the same or lower than shown below)
GIRLS' TRAVEL NON- NATIONAL BOUND				
11 & 12	12U	AAA	Tier I	12U
11 & 12	12U	AA	Tier II	12U AA
9 & 10	10U	AA	Travel	10U AA
9 & 10	10U	A	Tier II	10U A
7 & 8	8U			8U
GIRLS' NON- NATIONAL BOUND				
17, 18 & 19	19U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
15 & 16	16U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
13 & 14	14U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
11 & 12	12U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA
9 & 10	10U	B	Tier III	Any B team or below in your association or District. No A, AA, or AAA

E. PLAYING RULES

The official USA Hockey playing rules shall be used. No protests shall be permitted on the playing rules.

G. UNIFORM COLORS

1. The home team shall wear light/white jerseys. The visiting team shall wear dark/colored jerseys in all games. All disputes will be handled by the State Championship Tournament Director.
2. Each team entered in the State Championship Tournament must be fully uniformed with all players having jerseys of the same color. All players must have a number.

H. TIME BETWEEN GAMES

In all State Championship Tournaments held in Michigan, the number of games played by any player or team on one day shall not be more than two, with a minimum of four hours between the finish of the first game and the start of the second, and twelve hours between games played on consecutive days.

I. SCHEDULES AND FORMATS

1. All schedules and scores will be posted online at MAHA.org (then Tournaments; State Playoffs) as well as any partnered third-party applications associated with the current playoff season.
2. If the maximum number of teams cannot be met in any given tournament, the State Playoff Committee has the authority to adjust the tournament format as needed.
3. **Youth Tier I**
 - a. The tournament shall consist of no more than eight (8) teams.
 - b. There will be two (2) conferences (American and National) with four (4) teams per conference.
 - c. Conferences will be seeded according to how the teams performed in the MAHA