

# Black Wolves Howler 2026 Tournament Rules

## 1. Facility Rules

- **No balls** are allowed in or around the facilities. Violators may have their balls confiscated and face suspension from the next game.
- **No wall ball** is permitted inside or on the facility walls.
- **No balls in restrooms or dressing rooms.** Any damages caused will be the responsibility of the offending club. For example, if a toilet is blocked by a ball, the team will be billed for plumbing costs, and the responsible player(s) will be suspended for the remainder of the tournament.

## 2. Conduct & Discipline

- **Zero Tolerance Policy:** Abuse (physical or verbal) by players or fans will result in game stoppage (clock continues). The home team must ensure removal of the offender. Police may be called if necessary. Play will not resume until the offender is ejected.
- **Roster Rules:** Players may only play for one team unless prior approval is granted by the tournament chairperson. Teams with 15+ players cannot apply for additional players.
- **Uniform Conflicts:** If team colors are similar, the **home team** must change jerseys or wear pinnies. Goaltenders must also change if possible.
- **Referee Decisions:** All referee rulings are final.

## 3. Game Procedures

- **Game Sheets:**
  - Must be prepared **15 minutes before game time**. A Delay of Game penalty may be assessed if the sheet is late.
  - Players must be listed in numerical order.
  - Goaltender, captain, and alternate captains must be indicated.
  - The **winning team** must submit the completed game sheet to the tournament representative immediately after each game.
- **Minor Officials:**
  - **Home team** provides THREE volunteers: **Timekeeper, shot clock operator, and penalty box official**.
  - **Away team** provides TWO volunteers: **Game Sheet/Scorekeeper and penalty box official**.
  - Teams must assign personnel before the game; failure to do so results in a **Delay of Game penalty**.

## 4. Protests & Penalties

- **Protests:**
  - Must be filed **within two hours** of the incident.
  - Requires a **\$350 cash bond** (refunded only if the protest is upheld).
  - The tournament chairperson's decision is final.
  - The Discipline committee will make decisions regarding suspensions and will forward the information on to the appropriate league governing body.
- **Penalties:**
  - **Delayed penalties** that are canceled by a goal still get recorded on the score sheet and count toward total penalty minutes.
  - **Coach Misconduct:** A game misconduct for abuse of an official results in a **two-game suspension**.
  - **Match Penalty or Gross Misconduct:** Results in **tournament suspension** and sanctions per BCLA/ALA rules.
  - **Fighting:** A game misconduct for fighting results in **tournament suspension**.
  - **Ten-minute misconducts** do not carry over to the next game.
  - **Game Delays:**
    - Teams not ready to start or resume play will receive a **2-minute Delay of Game penalty**.
    - If unready after **5 minutes**, the game is forfeited.

## 5. Tournament Format & Scoring

- **Point System** (except finals):
  - **Winning a period** = 1 point
  - **Tying a period** = 0.5 point
  - **Winning a game** = 2 points
  - **Tying a game** = 1 point
  - **Max points per game** = 5 points
- **Tiebreakers:**
  - Head-to-head record
  - Fewest total penalty minutes
  - Fewest major penalties
  - Coin toss
- **Overtime (Medal Rounds Only):**
  - **3v3 Will be played in all OT**
  - **Sudden-death** 5-minute run-time period.

- If still tied, proceed to an **alternating shootout** (each player shoots once before repeats).
- First team to score while the other does not is the winner.
- **Uneven Teams in a Division:**
  - The team receiving the extra game will be a randomly selected team by the scheduler of the tournament
  - All game numbers for that team will be individually placed in an envelope by the tournament chair. Upon commencement of the tournament, one envelope will be selected by a random person at the arena where the tournament chair is located. The name and phone number of this person will be written on the envelope.
  - The envelope will be given to the Tournament scorekeeper and will not be opened until all games in the division are complete.
  - The stats for the game contained inside the envelope will not count toward the final standings of the team with the extra qualifying game.

## 6. Game Formats (Following New Lacrosse Canada Times)

Division	Duration	Periods	Notes
U9	45 min	2 x 18 min	3-min warm-up, 3-min rest. No scorekeeping, festival format. <i>*See special rules below</i>
U11	60 min	3 x 15 min	Run-time throughout, 3-min warm-up, 2-min rest.
U13	75 min	3 x 15 min	Run-time throughout with the exception of the last five minutes of the third period. 3-min warm-up, 2-min rest.
U15	1.5 hrs	3 x 15 min	3-min warm-up, Stop Time for all periods. 2 min Rest.
U17	1.5 hrs	3 x 15 min	3-min warm-up, Stop Time for all periods. 2 min Rest.

- **Mercy Rule:** If a team leads by **6 goals**, the clock switches to **run time**. Stop time resumes only if the lead shrinks to **4 goals or fewer**. The **scoreboard** will never show a gap greater than **six goals**. The score sheet will record all goals.
- **Game Shortening:** If delays occur (e.g., injuries, fights, or rink issues), the **referee or Tournament Chair** may adjust game length. The referee's decision is final.

- ***\*U9 Special Rules***  
*LTAD guideline Option X with Option L for game time with a regulation hard lacrosse ball for this division*
  - ***Format:*** *3-on-3 plus goalie (played cross-floor with a BCLA regulation net size). Coaches are allowed on the sideline. Fall back rule is in effect (must fall back to the opposing teams restraining line after a goal or goalie whistle).*
  - ***Focus:*** *Fun, speed, and ball touches.*
  - ***No Contact:*** *Only "standing ground" contact allowed. Players that are offending the rules will be warned by the referee before being substituted off the floor.*
  - ***Scoring:*** *no official scoring will be kept*
  - ***Shifts:*** *2-minute equal shifts, no on-the-fly changes.*
- **Exemptions:** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to allow exceptions for the sake of fair competition.

## 7. Withdrawal Policy

- Teams withdrawing after **April 8, 2026** forfeit their **entire tournament fee** unless a replacement team can be found.

## 8. First Aid

- ALL teams are to provide their own first aid to players (ice, bandages, tensor, etc). The tournament cannot guarantee the facility will have ice on hand.

### **Net Sizes:**

*U11-15 uses 4'x4' nets*

*U17 uses 4'6"x4' nets*