

BY-LAW ARTICLE XXIV

Ice Hockey Boys and Girls

Sect. 1: Ice Hockey shall be administered by the NHIAA Ice Hockey Committee and the rules of the National Federation will govern the sport when applicable.

Sect. 2: The NHIAA Ice Hockey Committee shall be responsible for conducting an annual ice hockey tournament. The Committee will arrange for the tournament to be played at times and sites to be determined.

Sect. 3: All games in NH, regular season and tournament, will be played according to the National Federation Ice Hockey Rules as they apply to high school games.

Sect. 4: All schedules are due in the NHIAA office no later than October 24th.

Sect. 5: All tournaments, jamborees, and similar competition must be sanctioned by the Ice Hockey Committee through the Executive Director. These sanctioned contests shall not count on the regular season's record for tournament consideration. No school may enter more than one approved Christmas tournament.

Sect. 6: All schedules for tournament consideration shall be guided by the following:

- A. In order to qualify for tournament consideration, each team must play a minimum of 12 games against NH schools within their own Division. Deviations shall only occur with the approval of the Ice Hockey Committee.
- B. Games can neither be added nor deleted from the schedules after they have been approved by the NHIAA.
- C. Scrimmages against other schools shall not be permitted during the first three (3) days of practice and after the first scheduled game. This regulation also applies to sub-varsity teams.

Sect. 7: Divisional Alignment

Boys ice hockey schools shall be aligned into three (3) divisions based upon enrollments and petitions subject to the approval of the Classification Committee. Girls ice hockey schools shall be aligned as one (1) division.

2025-26 Ice Hockey Boys Divisional Alignment

DIV. I (1750 +)		DIV. II (1042–1749)		DIV. III (1–1041)	
16 Schools		11 Schools		9 Schools	
Nashua North-South	3330	*Merrimack-Hollis-Derryfield	2143	*Monadnock-FAM-ConVal	1647
Man. Central-West-Memorial	3307	Alvirne-Milford	1723	*John Stark-Hopkinton-Hillsboro	1330
Pinkerton	3079	Timberlane-Pelham	1542	*Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-lakes	1278
Portsmouth-Newmarket-Sanborn	1828	Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma	1459	*Kearsarge-Plymouth	1136
*Concord	1464	Dover	1417	*Pembroke-Campbell	1112
*Bedford	1404	Spaulding	1390	Belmont-Gilford	852
*Exeter	1384	Winnacunnet	1073	Kingswood	746
*Keene	1341	Somersworth-Coe-Brown	1068	Kennett	707
*Londonderry	1291	Goffstown	1043	Berlin-Gorham	489
*Salem	1096	*Bishop Brady-Merr. Valley	1024		
*Windham	995	*Oyster River	844		
*Bishop Guertin	771	*St. Thomas Aquinas	354		
*Hanover	689				
*Bow	611				
*Trinity	327				
		*Petition			

2025-26 Ice Hockey Girls 16 Schools

Souhegan-Nashua North-South	4023	Kingswood-Prospect-Plymouth	1807	Brady-Trinity- Bow	1199
Man. Central-West-Memorial	3307	Concord	1464	Berlin-Gorham-Kennett	1196
Pinkerton	3079	Lebanon-Kearsarge-Mascoma	1445	Salem	1096
St. Thomas-Winnacunnet-Dover	2844	Bedford	1404	Hanover	869
Keene-Monadnock-Fall Mountain	2330	Exeter	1384	Bishop Guertin	771
Oyster River-Portsmouth	1868				

Sect. 8: Team Selection and Format for the State Tournament (CM 6.2016):

- A. The maximum number of teams allowed per By-Law Article IV: Classification; Sect. 10; Tournament Selection Requirements will qualify for the boys and girls tournament in each division.
- B. Tournament team selection will be determined in accordance with the present divisional alignment.
- C. Tournament games will consist of three (3) 15-minute periods. Each game will be played straight through. In the event of a tie the following tournament overtime rule shall apply: For all tournament games there shall be 15 minute "Sudden Victory" overtime period (s). New ice will be made and teams will change ends for every overtime period. This procedure will continue until a winner is determined.
- D. Mercy Rule: In the last period of any NHIAA game, regular season or tournament play, if a team is leading by six (6) or more goals, the clock will continue to run. If the lead is down to only four (4) goals, normal timing procedures will be instituted. The only time the clock will stop is to replace a goalie, when the goalie change rules apply, or to attend to an injured player.

Sect. 9: Awards

Official NHIAA championship and runner-up plaques, in addition to 24 team medals, will be awarded to the respective champion and runner-up teams in each division.

Sect. 10: Tournament Rosters

A total of 25 individuals to include 20 players (two goalies recommended), four (4) non-player personnel, and one (1) designated medical personnel shall be permitted to occupy the bench area. For those teams that do not have 20 players in uniform or a designated medical person, additional personnel may NOT be substituted. Rosters shall be completed via the NHIAA website. If a team is going to make the tournament, a team photo in uniform (no warm-ups and no mascots allowed) must be submitted with a photo lineup. If no photo is received a logo will be supplemented.