

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PLAYOFF INFORMATION
2023 – 2024 SEASON



The OWHL Championship weekend on April 5th -7th, 2024 will consist of a League Championship game and a Consolation Championship game for each age group and level.

Teams that place 1st - 4th in their division will be playing for the **League Championship**

Team recategorization by the OWHA – If a team was recategorized "up", the team will NOT be eligible for the OWHL playoffs. If a team was recategorized "down", the team WILL BE eligible for playoffs in their regular season division IF your team finishes in the 1st – 4th place.

Teams the place $5^{th} - 8^{th}$ in their division will be playing for the **Consolation Championships**.

Team recategorization by the OWHA – If a team was recategorized "up," the team will NOT be eligible for the OWHL playoffs. If a team was recategorized "down," the team WILL BE eligible for playoffs in their regular season division IF your team finishes 5th – 8th.

The OWHA recognizes that there will be some loops that will have less than 8 teams in their division which means the remaining teams (not in the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place) would be eligible to be in the consolation division.

The OWHA also recognizes that there will be more than 8 teams in a loop and those teams (not in $5^{th} - 8^{th}$ place) will **not** be eligible to play for the consolation division.

Example:

Loops that have **more** than 8 teams (example 12 teams):

1st – 4th place will be competing in the League Championship Playoffs.

5th – 8th place will be competing in the Consolation Championship Playoffs.

 9^{th} – 12^{th} place will not qualify for playoffs and their season will be complete and the end of regular season.

Loops that have **less** than 8 teams (example 7 teams):

1st – 4th place will be competing in the League Championship Playoffs.

5th – 7th place will be competing in the Consolation Championship Playoffs.

<u>THERE ARE NO PICK-UPS PERMITTED DURTING THE OWHL PLAYOFFS</u> – Emergency exemption for goalies ONLY.

SHOULD THE HOME TEAM NEED TO CHANGE ANY DETAILS OF A SCHEDULED GAME, THEY ARE TO NOTIFY THE OPPOSING TEAM AS WELL AS UPDATE SAID INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE.



PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) Eligibility for Playoffs and Championship: A Player must have been rostered with the specific team on or before December 31, 2023, to be eligible for the Playoffs and Championship Weekend. They must play at least 5 games before January 15th to be eligible for League Playoffs and Championship Weekend.
- b) Pickup players are not eligible for Playoff games or Championship games. However, in certain circumstances, a team may be permitted to pick up a goaltender. If a team's goaltender is injured or unavailable for a legitimate reason, that team must apply, with proper documentation, to the OWHA Office for permission to pick up a goaltender. The OWHA Registrar will decide whether to grant such permission. If permission is granted, the team's designated goaltenders will be ineligible to play. The pickup goaltender must be currently registered with an OWHA team, either in the same category or a lower one.
- c) Individuals under suspension are not permitted to participate.

MATCHUPS AND PLAYOFFS

Teams that qualify for the League Championship and Consolations Championship will play a home and away series. The team with the best record will then advance to the division series playoffs.

There are no restrictions for scheduling playoff games prior to the predetermined start date of February 20th.

GAME RULES

- There will be a three (3) minute warm up prior to each game, starting as soon as the ice re-surfacer gates are closed, but no earlier than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- One 30 second timeout will be permitted per team/per game in all categories of OWHL League and Consolation Championships. This one timeout may take place in regulation or overtime.
- Points will be awarded as follows: two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no points for a loss.
- The home team will wear their light-colored sweaters. Goalies must dress in the same sweater color as the team is wearing. Any conflict in sweater color will result in the home team having to change.
- Playoff game length remains the same as regular season games.
 - THERE ARE NO CURFEWS FOR PLAYOFF GAMES



GAME SHEETS/GAME REPORTING

- Rosters will be pulled from RAMP, remembering that any player signed after December 31st is NOT eligible. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure any players signed after December 31st do NOT participate in any playoff game. These players are not to show as playing on the electronic game sheet for any games.
- No players may be added, and no pick-up players are permitted for playoffs or League and Consolation Championship.
- Teams must schedule their playoff games on the RAMP Games Portal. These games are
 to be scheduled under the "League Games" tab. When scheduling a payoff game, you
 will be required to choose a game type, please select "Playoff". ONLY your "HOME"
 games should be scheduled on the RAMP Games Portal.
- Teams may use a game that counts as both a playdown game and a playoff game, if both teams agree and send an email to both provincials@owha.on.ca and leagues@owha.on.ca. These games must follow OWHL Playoff eligibility requirements and protocols and have prior approval from the league.

TIE BREAKERS GAME POINTS

Win - 2 points Tie - 1 point Loss - 0 points

If tied in points, the following tiebreakers will be followed:

- i. Number of wins.
- ii. Record against other tied teams.
- iii. Goals scored minus the goals against in series.
- iv. Fewest goals allowed in series.
- v. Most periods won in series.
- vi. Fewest penalty minutes in series.
- vii. First goal scored in a series.
- viii. Flip of a coin.

In the case of more than two teams, tiebreakers will follow the numerical order until all ties are broken.

GAME LENGTHS

Teams in the OWHL- EASTERN Divisions and Categories to follow:

- The following divisions will play 15-15-20:
 - o U18AA, A & BB
 - o U15AA, A & BB
 - o U13AA
- The following divisions will 10-12-12:
 - All other teams.



RESCHEDULING DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER ONLY

• Both teams must agree to reschedule. Once the new date & time have been agreed upon, please email leagues@owha.on.ca with the details.

TIMEOUTS

- Playoff games MUST NOT be curfewed and no overtime.
- There will be one 30 second time out per team per game as per Hockey Canada Playing Rules.

DISCIPLINE

- OWHA discipline is in place. All suspensions must be reported to stats@owha.on.ca as per the OWHA DISCIPLINE and PROCEDURES.
- Any participant under suspension is not permitted to participate with the team in any team related activities.
- OWHA will suspend and/or remove participants and/or teams for violations of OWHA
 requirements or for actions that are not consistent with the OWHA Values and Code of
 Conduct.
- Decisions of the OWHA are final and binding on all teams.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP AND CONSOLATION CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION

- The 2024 OWHL League Championships and Consolation Championships are currently scheduled for April 5th – 7th, 2024.
- Ice is currently blocked at multiple facilities.

OWHA reserves the right to interpret and update the material above and make decisions as it deems appropriate for the OWHL Playoffs and the League and Consolation Championship games.

We thank everyone involved for their cooperation and support in providing a fair and supportive playoff series for all participants. We wish everyone well and are available to assist as required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email leagues@owha.on.ca



DIVISION PLAYOFF ROUND – Round 1

- Home and Away series needs to be scheduled between February 20th March 10th.
 - After regular season ends 1st 4th place teams in each loop play each other in the Home and Away series.
 - After regular season ends 5th 8th place teams in each loop play each other in the Home and Away series.
- See rules above regarding tiebreakers.
- There are no restrictions for scheduling playoff games prior to the predetermined start date of February 20th. If your team has qualified for a spot in either the League Playoffs or Consolation Playoffs, you are welcome to schedule games prior to Feb 20th. This may only be the case if the teams you are scheduling the game with are in the same position as your team.

EASTERN DIVISION BRACKET – Round 2

- Playoffs for this round: March 11th April 2nd
- Division winners from League Championship Playoffs will then qualify for League Championship Day for the one game to determine the League Champion of the division.
- Division winners from Consolation Championship Playoffs will then qualify for Consolation Championship Day for the one game to determine the Consolation Champion of the division.
- Tiebreaker rules listed above correspond for this playoff round as well.

U11 AA/A - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 6th place teams)

No divisional playoff is required. These two teams automatically qualify for Consolation Championship Day.

U11 BB/B - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)



<u>U11 C – Eastern (5 team division)</u>

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st - 5th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

NO Consolation Championship Playoffs for this division.

U11 House – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in West Division will play against the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place in East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs

 5^{th} place team in East House Division get a by to Consolation Championship Game. $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ place teams in West House Division will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the one team that will play on League Championship Day.

U13 AA - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 3rd place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day

NO Consolation Championship Playoffs for this division.

U13 A - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 7th place teams)



U13 BB/B - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the West Division will play against the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 6th place teams)

 $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ place teams in West and East House Division will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U13 C – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 7th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U13 House – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the West Division will play against the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 6th place teams)

 $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ place teams in West and East House Division will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

<u>U15 AA – Eastern (5 Team Division)</u>

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 5th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

NO Consolation Championship Playoffs for this division.



U15 A - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U15 BB - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U15 B - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U15 C - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)



U15 House – Eastern (5 Team Division)

League Championship Divisional Playoffs

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the West Division will play against $1^{st} - 5^{th}$ place teams in the East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

NO Consolation Championship Playoffs for this division.

U18 AA - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U18 A - Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st - 4th place teams)

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the West Division will play against $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 7th place teams)

5th – 7th place teams in West and East House Division will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U18 BB – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)



U18 B – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U18 C – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 8th place teams)

These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.

U18 House – Eastern

League Championship Divisional Playoffs (1st – 4th place teams)

 $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the West Division will play against the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ place teams in the East Division. These teams will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on League Championship Day, one team from East, one team from West.

Consolation Championship Divisional Playoffs (5th – 6th place teams)

 $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ place teams in West and East House Division will play a home and away series. 1 game home and 1 game away. To determine the two teams that will play on Consolation Championship Day.