

NEAHL U11 2025-26 Playoff Format

Tier 1

Divisional Playoff – March 6, 7, 8

East – 3 team double elimination tournament x 2 – (Places 1, 4, & 6) (Places 2,3, &5) – 2 winners to final

West – 4 team double elimination tournament – winner to final

League Final – March 13, 14, 15

3 winners of divisional playoffs plus host in a 4 team double elimination tournament. If host wins divisional playoffs, only a 3 team double elimination tournament.

Tier 2

Divisional Playoff – March 6,7,8

East – 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 1, 4 & 6 – Winner to final

East – 4 team double Elimination Tournament = Places 2, 3, 5 & 7 – Winner to final

West – 3 team double Elimination tournament x 2 - (Places 1, 4, & 6) (Places 2,3, &5) – 2 winners to final

League Final – March 13, 14, 15

4 winners of divisional playoffs plus host in a 5 team double elimination tournament, if host wins divisional playoffs only a 4 team double elimination tournament

Tier 3

Divisional Playoff – March 6,7,8

North – 5 team modified Tournament *** see below for more information

South – 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 1, 4 & 6 – Winner to final

South – 4 team double Elimination Tournament = Places 2, 3, 5 & 7 – Winner to final

West – 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 1, 4 & 6 – Winner to final

West – 4 team double Elimination Tournament = Places 2, 3, 5 & 7 – Winner to final

League Final – March 13,14,15

5 winners of divisional playoffs plus host in a 6 team double elimination tournament. If host wins divisional playoffs, only a 5 team double elimination tournament.

Tier 4

Divisional Playoff – March 6,7,8

East – 5 team modified Tournament *** see below for more information

West – 5 team modified Tournament *** see below for more information

League Final – March 13, 14, 15

1st & 2nd in divisional playoffs plus host in a 5 team double elimination tournament. If host wins divisional playoffs, only a 4 team double elimination tournament.

Tier 5

Divisional Playoff – March 6,7,8

East – 5 team modified Tournament ***see below for more information

West – 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 1, 4 & 6 – Winner to final

West - 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 2, 3 & 5 – Winner to final

League Final – March 13,14,15

3 winners of divisional playoffs plus host in a 4 team double elimination tournament. If host wins divisional playoffs, only a 3 team double elimination tournament.

Tier 6

Divisional Playoff – March 6,7,8

East – 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 1, 4 & 6 – Winner to final

East - 3 team double Elimination tournament – Places 2, 3 & 5 – Winner to final

West – 3 team double elimination tournament – Winner to final

League Final – March 13,14,15

3 winners of divisional playoffs plus host in a 4 team double elimination tournament. If host wins divisional playoffs, only a 3 team double elimination tournament.

Hosting Rules

Any team can apply to host divisional playoffs.

League Final hosts must be either 1st or 2nd in division to be eligible to host. If no 1st or 2nd teams apply, it will be opened up to 3rd place teams. This will be based on standings as of January 21, 2026

For Divisional Playoffs (tier 2, 3, 6) 1st and 2nd place teams will play in separate tournaments. Remainder of teams will be split based on travel to host sites as determined by Governor & Deputies

Hosting facility must be able to accommodate ice time requirements

3 team Double Elimination Tournament

1 Game Friday night

2 Games Saturday (must be at least two hours between games)

2 Games Sunday (second game is only played if team with one loss wins first game – must be at least 2 hours between games)

4 team Double Elimination Tournament

2 Games Friday night

3 Games Saturday (must be at least two hours between games 2 and 3)

2 Games Sunday (second game is only played if team with one loss wins first game – must be at least 2 hours between games)

5 team Modified Tournament

5 Games Saturday

1 Game Sunday

1, 4, 5 seed play in round robin playing each other once. Winner goes on to final

2 and 3 play in a two game total goal series with winning team going to final.

Regular Season Standing Tie-Breaker

For the standing/seeding, we should follow the tiebreakers prescribed in Alberta One, and either just state that we are following Alberta One or else list all of the Alberta One tiebreakers:

If 2 teams tied:

- 1) Most wins between the 2 tied teams in regular season play
- 2) Most wins in regular season play (skip if teams did not play an equal number of games)
- 3) Highest points percentage in regular season play
- 4) Highest goal ratio in regular season play
- 5) Fewest penalty minutes average per game in regular season play

6) Coin Toss

Miscellaneous

Host team is bottom seed if they do not win their way into League final