

# **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**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in division to be eligible to host. If no 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> teams apply, it will be opened up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams. This will be based on standings as of January 21, 2026

For Divisional Playoffs (tier 2, 3, 6) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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