

SOUTHERN ALBERTA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION PLAYOFF POLICY

VERSION 1.0

LAST MODIFIED: October 25, 2023

1) PURPOSE

- a) To provide a fair, objective, equitable, and consistent playoff structure and process.
- b) To provide SALA, ALRA, member organizations, teams, and families the structure, dates, and locations of playoffs well in advance to help with planning and avoid conflict.

2) POLICY

- a) Playoff games for all age divisions (U9 through U17 inclusive) are to be held during the last weekend of June (Friday to Sunday inclusive).
- b) A modified double elimination bracket with seedings based on regular season standings will be used as a playoff format for each age division.
 - i) Regular season tie breaking procedures will follow ALA Tournament Guidelines.
- c) Playoff tournament location will be rotated between SALA member organizations in a set manner.
- d) The most recent ALA Tournament guidelines are to be used as the guideline for the tournament.
- e) At the first SALA meeting after the number and locations of teams in each age division is confirmed, a vote will be held ensuring the playoff tournament location and the brackets for each age division is confirmed. This should be done no later than the start of the regular season of play.

3) PLAYOFF LOCATION

- a) All age divisions will be hosted by a member organization during the playoff tournament weekend on the last weekend of June (Friday to Sunday inclusive).
- b) The location of the playoff tournament will follow a set rotation of member organizations, which currently consists of Brooks, Chief Mountain Lacrosse, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Taber.
- c) An organization may choose to forfeit their right to host the playoff tournament. This must be communicated prior to the start of the regular season. The next member organization in rotation will host the tournament. The member organization that has forfeit their right will move to the bottom of the rotation.
- d) If a new member organization joins SALA, they will join the rotation at the end of the queue.

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4) PLAYOFF RULES

- a) Playoff structure will be a modified double elimination format. The final game of the bracket will crown the champion and does not require two losses by the higher ranking team.
- b) Game Structure to follow ALA and LC Regulations.
 - i) U9 - games will be 3 fifteen-minute run time periods, no clock stoppage (3x3 nets) (1 hr time allowance)
 - ii) U11 - games will be 3 fifteen-minute run time periods (1 hr time allowance)
 - iii) U13 - games will be 3 fifteen-minute run time periods, (1 allowance)
 - iv) U15 - games will be 3 fifteen-minute periods, the first two run time and third period stop time (1.50 hr time allowance)
 - v) U17 - games will be 3 twenty-minute periods, , the first two run time and third period stop time (1.50 hr time allowance)
- c) Mercy Rule - if a goal differential of 6 or more goals is present at any time during the game, at the next whistle to start play, the clock will run at straight time. If the goal differential is brought within 4 goals, the clock shall return to stop time at that time
- d) Game Officials:
 - i) Score Clock and Shot Clock will be done by the Home team
 - ii) Scoresheet will be done by the Visitor team
 - iii) Both teams will provide penalty box personnel
- e) Games cannot end in a tie:
 - i) Overtime (all games excluding gold medal games) there will be five-minute sudden victory periods until a goal is scored. There will be one-minute rest period between each five-minute period.
 - ii) Overtime (Gold medal games only) there will be five-minute sudden victory periods until a goal is scored. There will be a five-minute rest period between each five-minute period.
- f) Stop time: clock stops for goals, penalties, injuries at officials discretion and timeouts only.
- g) Home Team managers: make sure to send a pic of the game sheet immediately after the game to your division coordinator.

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5) DOUBLE ELIMINATION BRACKETS

a) 4-Team

Winner's Bracket

4 Team Double Elimination



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b) 5-Team

Winner's Bracket

5 Team Double Elimination



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c) 6-Team

Winner's Bracket

6 Team Double Elimination



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d) 7-Team

Winner's Bracket

7 Team Double Elimination



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e) 8-Team

Winner's Bracket

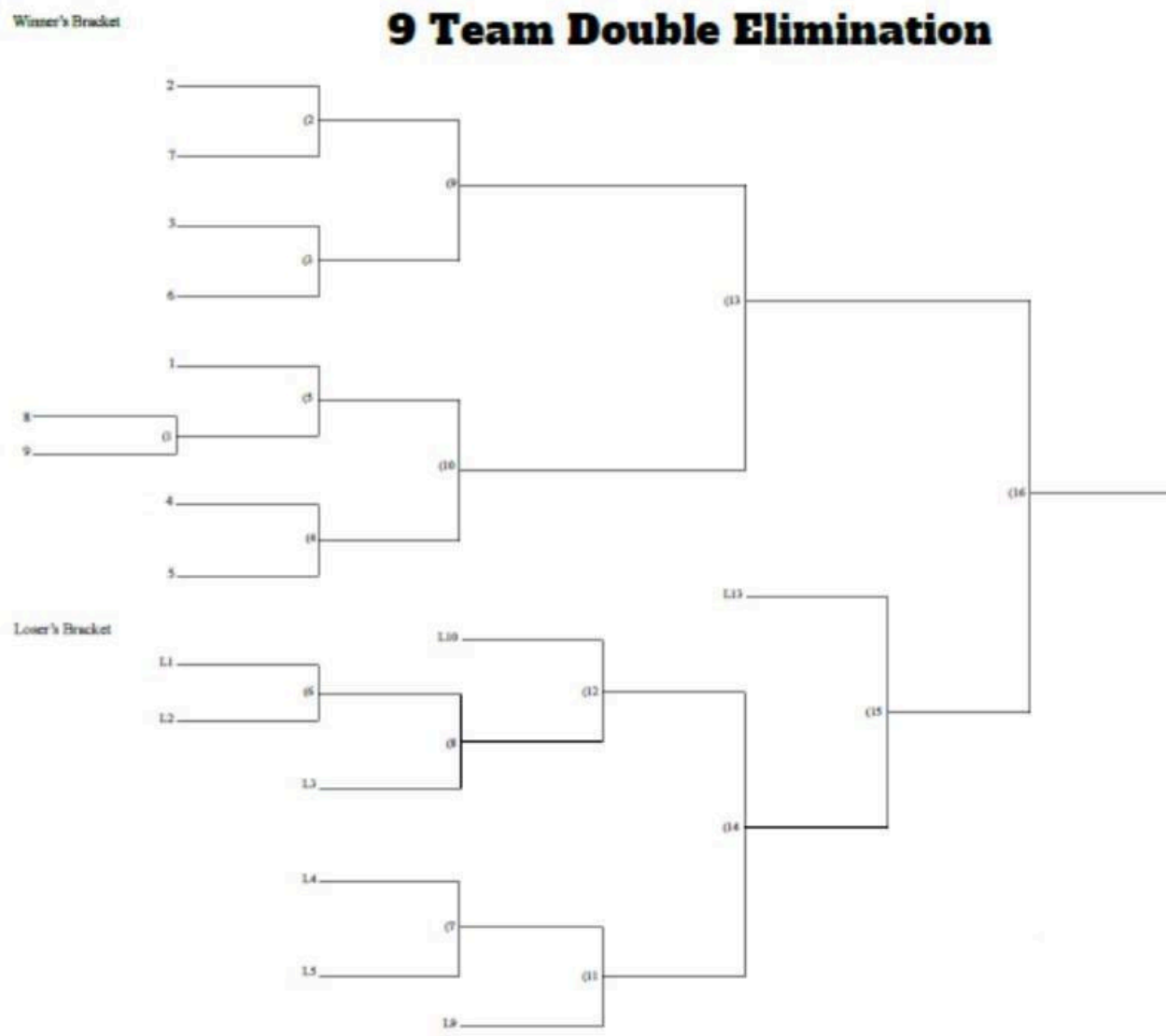
8 Team Double Elimination



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f) 9-Team



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g) 10-Team

Winner's Bracket

10 Team Double Elimination



h) 11-Teams or greater in an age division:

- An appropriate bracket with seeding will be proposed by the SALA Secretary.
- A vote will be held to approve the bracket to be used.

6) PROVINCIALS

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Winners of U13, U15, and U17 will move on to the Provincial Tournament.

7) COSTS

To be split evenly amongst SALA member organizations and billed by the SALA Treasurer.

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