

Pennsylvania Cup

Pennsylvania State Hockey Playoffs

Revised 11/26/07

DESCRIPTION

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League and the Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association, with the assistance of their member associations and cooperation of affiliated groups, will coordinate the Pennsylvania State High School Playoffs under the title of the “Pennsylvania Cup”.

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL) consists of member associations representing all of Western Pennsylvania. All member teams play under the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League rules. The Penguins Cup Playoffs are held under the direction of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League. The Penguins Cup Champions from the A, AA, and AAA (varsity level) will represent Western Pennsylvania in the Pennsylvania Cup State Championship games.

The Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association (DVHSHA) consists of seven member associations representing the Central Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (CPIHL), the Eastern High School Hockey League (EHS HL), Inter-County Scholastic Hockey League (ICSHL), the Lower Buck County Scholastic Hockey League (LBCSHL), the Suburban High School Hockey League (SHSHL), Lehigh Valley Scholastic Hockey League (LVSHL) and South Jersey High School Hockey League (SJHSHL). The Flyers Cup Playoffs are held under the direction of the Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association high school programs from Eastern Pennsylvania. The Flyers Cup Champions from the A, AA, and AAA (varsity level) will represent Eastern Pennsylvania in the Pennsylvania Cup State Championship games.

The recommendations of the State High School Conferences that were held the summer of 1983, the spring of 1990, summer of 1994, and the summer of 1998 provide the direction for the Pennsylvania State High School Playoffs.

FORMAT

The PIHL will provide the Penguins Cup Champions in Class “A”, Class “AA” and Class “AAA” to compete against the Flyers Cup Champions of Class “A”, Class “AA” and Class “AAA” as provided by the DVHSHA. The formats of each Championship shall be exchanged by the respective committees. This exchange will occur no later than February 15th of the regular season.

GAME SITES

Details pertaining to all games, leading up to and inclusive of the final games, for the Penguins Cup Playoffs shall be determined by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League.

Details pertaining to all games, leading up to and inclusive of the final games, for the Flyers Cup Playoffs shall be determined by the Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association.

The Pennsylvania Cup Finals shall be held in Western Pennsylvania in even numbered calendar years and in Eastern Pennsylvania in odd number calendar years.

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PLAYOFF COMMITTEES

RESPECTIVE PLAYOFF COMMITTEES

The Playoff Committees shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the conducting of the games and discipline within their region.

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League shall have the responsibility to establish their Playoff Committee for all Penguins Cup games. This Playoff Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee Vice Presidents (4), Open Division Liaison, Coaches Council Liaison, Rules Interpreter, Commissioner's Secretary, the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League, Executive Committee Treasurer and three (3) at large members. The three (3) at large members shall be selected by the playoff committee and submitted to the PIHL Executive Committee, for approval, from those that apply for the position. The at large members will be selected on an annual basis. The chairman of this committee is appointed by the President of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League. Each member shall have one vote in matters pertaining to their events. The Chairman shall only have a vote as a tiebreaker. The League Rule Interpreter shall handle issues pertaining to eligibility. The Penguins Cup Appeals Board, consisting of the League President, Secretary and an independent third party, selected by the committee chair ~~Treasurer~~, shall hear any appeal of eligibility rulings.

The Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association shall have the responsibility to establish their Playoff Committee for all Flyers Cup games. The Playoff Committee shall consist of one representative from each of the member leagues and an elected chairman. Each member league representative shall have one vote in matters pertaining to their respective events. The chairman shall only have a vote as a tie breaker. A member league representative shall have no voting power in specific issues concerning a team or individual from within their league.

FINAL PLAYOFF COMMITTEE

The Final Playoff Committee, for the final games of the Pennsylvania Cup State Playoffs, shall consist of two representatives from each of the previously stated playoff committees. In the event that two of the respective playoff committee members are unable to serve on the Pennsylvania Cup State Playoff's committee, individuals shall be appointed by a majority vote of their respective playoff committee. In addition, the hosting Playoff Committee shall appoint a Tournament Director. Each member shall have one vote in all matters pertaining to the Pennsylvania Cup State Playoff games. The Tournament Director shall serve as the mediator for the final Pennsylvania Cup playoff games and shall only have a tie breaker vote.

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CERTIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

PLAYER CERTIFICATION

The respective Playoff Committee shall be responsible for reviewing the necessary documentation, as specified in the "Team Certification" and "Player Eligibility" section. This is to ensure that all participants are eligible for the playoffs. The documentation required in Team Certification, section 5 above, must be submitted to the respective Playoff Committee Chairman, or a designated individual, prior to the seeding meeting providing proof of eligibility. Failure to submit prior to first game shall cause forfeiture of that game.

TEAM CERTIFICATION

The following shall be completed prior to any team participating at any class of the Pennsylvania Cup Playoffs.

1. All High School programs shall be located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Each team shall be certified in good standing by their District USA High School Associate Hockey Registrar.
2. All players and coaches shall be identified as a participant of that team by using the USA Hockey registration form and the League Roster forms. Roster forms shall be available for inspection at every game.
3. A birth certificate, photo driver's license or copy of a passport (to identify individual players and verify age) shall be available for inspection at every game.
4. Copy of all game sheets for all rostered players including those moved up one level from a lower team of the same association.
5. Copy of all rostered coaches' level of certification information.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Written certification from a school official is required to verify that each player is eligible according to that school's academic and eligibility requirements and is in fact a student of the high school his team represents. The League Roster form may be used with a current signature and date.
2. A player shall not be 19 years of age or older before July 1 of the year the season starts. ~~(Example: July 1, 2005 for the 2005-2006 season).~~
3. A player in the 8th grade or lower shall not be eligible to participate.
4. A player shall be eligible for a period of 8 semesters after commencement of the 9th grade or upon completion of the course work of the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade.
5. A player shall play in a minimum of 10 regular season games (Varsity, next lower level from varsity OR a combination) against other League teams. Consideration for players who have been ill or injured for a portion of the season (not meeting the minimum 10 game requirement) shall be submitted to the respective Playoff Committee Chairman 24 hours prior to the respective seeding meeting.
6. A player shall meet the eligibility requirements of the league in which his or her team plays.

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GENERAL PROCEDURES

ADMISSION PRICES

Admission prices for all playoff games shall be a minimum of \$5.00 for adults and students. Only Media, Coaches, League Representative and Special passes will be honored.

TEAM ADMISSION

Up to 25 team personnel, consisting of players, coaches and team personnel may sign in at the playoff games. All others must purchase a ticket and pay any parking fees.

The respective Playoff Committee is responsible for preparing a sign-in sheet for all games. The sign-in sheet is to be forwarded to the respective Playoff Committee along with the original game score sheet immediately following each contest.

EXPENSE/PROFIT

All expenses are the responsibility of the host league. Any profit resulting from these games will be retained by the host league.

Any reimbursement for Playoff Committee travel expenses incurred will be left up to the discretion of the respective individual league.

The financial statements for the Penguins Cup and Flyers Cup are due prior to the end of that league's fiscal year.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

The Host of the Pennsylvania Cup, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League or the Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association, shall be responsible for the purchase of trophies and awards for the Pennsylvania Cup State finals. The Host shall purchase and provide for engraving for the traveling state championship trophy (with names of all players, coaches and designated team officials), a replica permanent trophy for each state champion and a set of medals for the state champions and runners-up.

The fund will be administered by the host tournament committee. Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League and the Delaware Valley High School Hockey Association will equally share in the cost of the trophies. The respective Penguins Cup and Flyers Cup awards will be at the discretion of the respective playoff committees.

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PLAYING RULES

PENGUINS CUP AND FLYERS CUP GAMES

Penguins Cup and Flyers Cup Playoff games shall be played under the playing rules set forth within the current USA Hockey Official Playing Rules, respective league playing rules, and any additions found within this document.

PENNSYLVANIA CUP GAMES

The playing rules for the Pennsylvania Cup final games shall be specified in the current USA Hockey Official Playing Rules and any additions found within this document. *For the final games, home teams shall wear white jerseys and away teams shall wear dark jerseys.*

EMT AND SECURITY

A qualified EMT or local qualified substitution shall be present prior to the start of all games and must be in attendance at all games. The EMT must be in attendance for the duration of the game and shall not leave the game until the EMT has checked with the coaches at the end of the game.

Security shall be employed at all games.

OFFICIALS

On-ice officials (3 or 4 man crews) shall be assigned by the respective eastern and western Pennsylvania officials. Off-ice officials for the semi-final and final games of the Penguins Cup, Flyers Cup and the Pennsylvania Cup games, shall be coordinated by the respective tournament Committee. Any other rounds, off-ice officials are the responsibility of the home teams, or their respective league, in compliance with any local league rules.

TIME OF MATCH

Three periods of 15 minutes stop time shall be played. The ice shall be resurfaced prior to the beginning of each game and again prior to the start of the third period. *There shall be no curfew.*

OVERTIME

USA Hockey Rule 638 shall apply with the following exceptions:

1. A two minute rest period will be allowed.
2. After completion of two (2) ten (10) minute consecutive overtime periods, the ice will be resurfaced.
3. The teams will change ends after each, ten minute, overtime period.

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SUSPENSIONS AND DISCIPLINE

All suspensions and discipline actions acquired by players, coaches, team officials, teams, and associations shall carry over from the regular season into the Pennsylvania Cup. Suspensions and discipline actions shall carry over from one playoff round to the succeeding rounds. Suspensions and discipline actions obtained in the Pennsylvania Cup final games shall follow the individual and/or group and carry over to the start of the following season within their associated league. The associated league shall forward evidence of compliance to the past years Tournament Director. Participation of a team within the Pennsylvania Cup final games establishes an agreement by the team and its respective league to adhere to this agreement concerning carry-over suspensions.

The “proper authority” for all games shall be the respective Playoff Committee as defined in the section of this document titled “Playoff Committees”. The proper authority shall review all matters, except player eligibility, pertaining to the playoffs and has final say as to discipline of all participants of said games. The “proper authorities” decision is final (no appeals at the League level of authority).

PROTEST

No protests shall be permitted on playoff game issues. Settlement of all disputes, with the exception of eligibility, shall be reviewed and settled by the “proper authority” (respective Playoff Committee) within twenty-four (24) hours. The “proper authorities” decision is final (no appeals at the League level of authority).