



2025 Finnesota Cup Tournament Rules and Procedures

May 2nd-April 4th & May 9th-May 11th, 2025

Team Conduct:

- Coaches/chaperones are responsible for the conduct of players and damages that occur at venues/tournament facilities
- A zero tolerance policy regarding abusive language and unsportsmanlike behavior toward opposing team players/coaches/fans, as well as referees/volunteers/tournament officials, is strictly enforced. Anyone in violation of this policy will be immediately escorted from the venue.

Tournament Rosters:

- Although not encouraged, players are allowed to be rostered on two teams ONLY, but cannot be rostered on two teams within the same division. Division is defined as either "Elite", "Invite" or "Open." If a player is in violation, she will be deemed ineligible and will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament.

Levels:

U8 Girls Level - 2016 & 2017 and younger

U10 Girls Level - 2014 & 2015 birth years

U12 Girls Level - 2012 & 2013 birth years

U14 Girls Level - 2010 & 2011 birth years

U16 Girls Level - 2008 & 2009 birth years

U19 Girls Level - 2006 & 2007 or younger

- Final tournament roster cannot consist of more than 20 players (18 players and 2 goaltenders).

Game Procedures:

- All periods will be 15-minute stop time. **The ice will be resurfaced after every game.**
- If a game is tied after three periods of regulation, there will be a 3-man Shootout. Coaches are responsible to assign their three players when the shootout occurs. There will be a 60 second break at the end of regulation to give coaches time to select their players. A player can NOT shoot twice in a shootout. See '3-Player Shoot-out Rules:' below for additional details.

3-Player Shoot-out Rules:

A. Coaches are responsible to assign their three players when the shootout occurs. There will be a 60 second break at the end of regulation to give coaches time to select their players.

B. If a player is in the penalty box at the end of regulation, that player is NOT eligible for the shoot-out.



C. The team bench with the fewest number of eligible players will be used to determine how many players shoot before being eligible to shoot again. For example, Team A has 10 players and Team B has 15 players. Once Team A has used all 10 players then Team B will be allowed to use any player that has already shot in the shoot-out.

D. Teams alternate players shooting until the advantage is held for a win.

E. If the score remains tied, one additional player shoots until a winner is decided. Refer to Rule B if necessary.

• If a game is tied after three periods of **regulation in a semifinal, 3rd place or championship game**, there will be a 5 minute 4 on 4 Sudden Death Overtime. In the event there is not a winner at the end of the first overtime, there will be a second 5 minute 3 on 3 Sudden Death Overtime. In the event there is not a winner at the end of second OT Sudden Death Shoot-Out

• Teams listed as the HOME team on the schedule are to wear LIGHT jerseys. If there is a conflict in jersey colors, the tournament expects the two coaches to work out a reasonable solution.

• All teams must arrive at the tournament venue at least 40 minutes prior to their scheduled start time; teams must be prepared to take the ice 25 minutes prior to scheduled game time.

• Every effort will be made to provide teams with a warm-up period; **however, teams must be ready to take the ice as soon as the preceding game and/or ice resurfacing is finished.**

• Tournament officials will provide all game pucks and pre-game warm up pucks.

• Each team is allowed ONE 60 second time-out for Pool Play and Playoff Games.

Game and Competition Format:

Teams are guaranteed four tournament games. Pool Formats:

1. 4 teams: 3 pool games each, 3rd Place, Championship
2. 5 teams: 4 pool games each, 2 Semi-Finals, 3rd Place, Championship
3. 6 teams: 3 pool games each, 1 Seed game (5v6), 2 Semi-Finals, 3rd Place, Championship
4. 7-team: 1 pool, 4 pool games, 2 Semi-finals, Championship
5. 8 teams: 3 pool games each, 2 Seed games (5v6, 7v8), 2 Semi-Finals, 3rd Place, Championship
6. 9-team: 1 pool, 4 pool games, 2 Semi-finals, Championship
7. 10 teams: 4 pool games each, 3rd Place, Championship
8. 12 teams: 3 pool games each, 4 Seed games (5v6, 7v8, 9v10, 11v12), 2 Semi-Finals, 3rd Place, Championship



9. 16 Teams: 3 pool games each, 6 seed games (5vs6, 7vs8, 9vs10, 11vs12, 13vs14, 15vs16), 2 semi finals, 3rd place, Championship

*Mercy Rule - if at any point in time in the game the gap in the score equals five goals or more, running time will begin. If the gap in score is below 5 goals, stop time will resume.

- Standings are determined on the basis of two points for all regulation and shootout wins; zero points for a regulation or shootout loss.
- If two teams have an equal number of points in pool play, standings are determined by 1.) Head-to-head result; 2.) Most wins; 3.) Fewest goals allowed; 4.) Goal differential; 5.) Most goals scored; 6.) Coin toss.
- If a tie in the standings occurs with three teams, the tie-breaking procedure begins at Head-to-Head results then follows the procedures in order. When this procedure only eliminates one of the teams and two teams still remain tied, the eliminated team is removed and the procedure is re-processed with the remaining two teams. If the two teams remain tied following this process, a coin toss is used to determine advancement.

Protests:

- All protests must be made to the Tournament Officials by the Head Coach only to be valid. The head coach must bring their concerns to the tournament officials within 30 minutes of the game in question. The Advisory Committee's decision is final on all arbitrated game decisions. Please email your protests to jalos001@umn.edu
- No protests will be permitted regarding rules interpretations or judgment calls made by referees. Only protests related to game rules that can be addressed in the USA Hockey Rule Book and/or regarding player eligibility will be heard by tournament officials.
- If it is determined that a player has violated an eligibility rule, the player and the team the player is rostered on will be disqualified from the remainder of the tournament. Over aged girls are only allowed to play in emergency situations where the team is short of players (bench less than 10 skaters) due to injuries or unforeseen circumstances.
- **ALL Parents/Guardians must have a birth certificate available for any protests.**

Rule Modifications:

The Finnesota Cup is played under current USA Hockey rules as modified by tournament organizers. USA Hockey guidelines for equipment are enforced for all teams from the United States. International teams will abide by their country's equipment guidelines. Significant modifications used during tournament play include:

- The red line is used for icing only. No touch icing.
- The tag-up rule for offside will be used for all age divisions.
- Slap shots are permitted at all levels.
- Checking is not permitted in any category.



- A **Game Ejection** will occur after 3 penalties per player in one game with no further suspensions.
- All players, including alternative goaltenders, in the player's box area are required to wear helmets.

Penalties:

- Only referees and linesmen registered with USA Hockey will be assigned to work the Finnesota Cup. All decisions made by the officials are final. Questions regarding rules interpretations should be directed to the Supervisor of Officials. Contact information for the Supervisor of Officials can be provided by the Rink Coordinator.
- USA Hockey rules governing player/coach/team penalties are enforced. In the event of coincidental penalties, neither team will skate shorthanded.
- Referees have the discretion of assessing a Game Ejection penalty to players and/or coaches **for misconduct** (this does not apply to the 3 penalty automatic ejection for players) for the remainder of any game. Players and/or coaches receiving a Game Ejection penalty will be eligible to play/coach at the next scheduled game.
- Checking-from-behind penalties will carry a two-minute minor penalty, plus a ten-minute misconduct, to be served consecutively unless the opponent is checked head-first into the boards, which carries a mandatory five-minute major penalty and a Game Misconduct.
- A Fighting Penalty will result in a five-minute major penalty and a Game Misconduct.
- Any player and/or coach using remarks that are considered a racial slur in nature heard by a game official will automatically receive a game misconduct. The tournament advisory committee reserves the right to review any racially motivated incident for further disciplinary action, including disqualification from the tournament.

Awards:

- Individual player awards will be presented to the player of the game after each game, in each age group.
- The Championship teams placing in 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place will receive a team banner.
 - The Championship teams placing in 3rd place, 2nd place, and 1st place will receive tournament medals.