

BY-LAW ARTICLE XXIV

Ice Hockey Boys and Girls

Sect. 1: Ice Hockey shall be administered by the NHIAA Ice Hockey Committee and the rules of the National Federation will govern the sport when applicable.

Sect. 2: The NHIAA Ice Hockey Committee shall be responsible for conducting an annual ice hockey tournament. The Committee will arrange for the tournament to be played at times and sites to be determined.

Sect. 3: All games in NH, regular season and tournament, will be played according to the National Federation Ice Hockey Rules as they apply to high school games.

Sect. 4: All schedules are due in the NHIAA office no later than October 24th.

Sect. 5: All tournaments, jamborees, and similar competition must be sanctioned by the Ice Hockey Committee through the Executive Director. These sanctioned contests shall not count on the regular season's record for tournament consideration. No school may enter more than one approved Christmas tournament.

Sect. 6: All schedules for tournament consideration shall be guided by the following:

- A. In order to qualify for tournament consideration, each team must play a minimum of **10** games against NH schools within their own Division. Deviations shall only occur with the approval of the Ice Hockey Committee.
- B. Games can neither be added nor deleted from the schedules after they have been approved by the NHIAA.
- C. Scrimmages against other schools shall not be permitted during the first three (3) days of practice and after the first scheduled game. This regulation also applies to sub-varsity teams.

Sect. 7: Divisional Alignment

Boys ice hockey schools shall be aligned into three (3) divisions based upon enrollments and petitions subject to the approval of the Classification Committee. Girls ice hockey schools shall be aligned as one (1) division.

2026-27 Ice Hockey Boys Divisional Alignment

DIV. I (1310 +)		DIV. II (790-1309)		DIV. III (1-1041)	
16 Schools		12 Schools		8 Schools	
Nashua North-South	3242	*Alvirne-Milford-Souhegan	2277	*John Stark-Hopkinton-Hillsboro	1306
Man. Central-West-Memorial	3207	*Merrimack-Hollis-Derryfield	1996	*Monadnock-Fall Mtn.-Conant	1212
Pinkerton	2979	*Portsmouth-Newmarket-Sanborn	1682	*Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter Lakes	1194
Dover	1423	*Timberlane-Pelham	1400	*Kearsarge-Plymouth	1128
Bedford	1367	*Spaulding	1346	*Pembroke-Campbell	1055
Concord	1329	Kingswood-Prospect Mtn.	1135	Belmont-Gilford	789
Exeter	1329	Somersworth-Coe Brown	1061	Kennett	612
*Keene	1263	Goffstown	1032	Berlin-Gorham	466
*Londonderry	1219	Winnacunnet	988		
*Salem	1069	Lebanon-Mascoma	959		
*Windham	884	Bishop Brady-Merrimack Valley	942		
*Bishop Guertin	767	Oyster River	796		
*Hanover	693				
*Bow	639				
*Trinity	345				
*St. Thomas	341	*Petition			

2026-27 Ice Hockey Girls 16 Schools

Souhegan-Nashua North-South	3951	Oyster River-Portsmouth	1779	Bishop Brady-Trinity-Bow	1211
Salem-Londonderry-Alvirne	3243	Kingswood-Prospect Mtn.-Plymouth	1778	Berlin-Gorham-Kennett	1078
Man. Central-West-Memorial	3207	Lebanon-Kearsarge-Mascoma	1444	Bishop Guertin	767
Pinkerton	2979	Bedford	1367	Hanover	693
St. Thomas-Winnacunnet-Dover	2752	Concord	1329		
Keen-Monadnock-Fall Mtn	2168	Exeter	1329		

Sect. 8: Team Selection and Format for the State Tournament (CM 6.16):

- A. The maximum number of teams allowed per By-Law Article IV: Classification; Sect. 10; Tournament Selection Requirements will qualify for the boys and girls tournament in each division.
- B. Tournament team selection will be determined in accordance with the present divisional alignment.
- C. Tournament games will consist of three (3) 15-minute periods. Each game will be played straight through. In the event of a tie the following tournament overtime rule shall apply: For all tournament games there shall be a three (3) minute intermission, ends shall be changed, ice will not be made, and an eight (8) minute “sudden victory” period will take place. If no winner, there will be a 12-minute intermission, ends shall be changed, ice will be made for a fifteen (15) minute “sudden victory” overtime period (s). This procedure will continue until a winner is determined.(CM 5.26)
- D. Mercy Rule: In the last period of any NHIAA game, regular season or tournament play, if a team is leading by six (6) or more goals, the clock will continue to run. If the lead is down to only four (4) goals, normal timing procedures will be instituted. The only time the clock will stop is to replace a goalie, when the goalie change rules apply, or to attend to an injured player.

Sect. 9: Awards

Official NHIAA championship and runner-up plaques, in addition to 26 team medals, will be awarded to the respective champion and runner-up teams in each division. (CM 5.26)

Sect. 10: Tournament Rosters

A total of 27 individuals to include 22 players (two goalies recommended), four (4) non-player personnel, and one (1) designated medical personnel shall be permitted to occupy the bench area. For those teams that do not have 20 players in uniform or a designated medical person, additional personnel may NOT be substituted. Rosters shall be completed via the NHIAA website. If a team is going to make the tournament, a team photo in uniform (no warm-ups and no mascots allowed) must be submitted with a photo lineup. If no photo is received a logo will be supplemented. (CM 5.26)