



2025 Playoffs Resource

Playoff Format

- Announced January 15.
- Can be found on our Coaches Portal under the Rules and Resources tab. [\(or click here\)](#)
- Each Tier will have a specific playoff format dependent on the number of teams in the Tier.
- All Tiers will play a Round Robin. All teams are guaranteed 3 games minimum before eliminations.
- All series will be a 4-point series. (QF, SF, Final)



Winter Season and Round Robin Tie-Break Procedure



- Section 15.2, Page 35 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- **Two Teams tied** (steps to be applied in order until the tie is broken) :
 - Most Wins
 - Most Wins Head-to-Head in Winter Season or Round Robin
 - GF-GA Percentage in Winter Season or Round Robin
 - The team who scored the FIRST GOAL in the Winter Season or Round Robin
- **Three or more Teams tied** (steps to be applied in order until the ties are broken)
 - The team with the most wins shall be awarded the higher position
 - If two teams are tied with the most wins, then apply 'Two Teams tied', to determine which team is awarded the higher position. The other team will be awarded the next highest position. For the remaining teams, apply the 'Two Teams tied' steps or 'Three or more Teams tied' steps repeatedly until all teams are positioned
 - If three teams, or more, are tied with the most wins, then calculate the GF-GA percentage for each team. The teams will be positioned by highest percentage to lowest percentage. For the remaining teams, apply the 'Two Teams tied' steps or 'Three or more Teams tied' steps repeatedly until all remaining teams are positioned



GF-GA Percentage Formula

- Goals For / (Goals For + Goals Against) {Times 100 for percentage}
- **Example:**
 - Goals For = 10
 - Goals Against = 4
 - **Formula:** $10 / (10+4) = 0.714 \times 100 = 71.4\%$



Series Tie Breakers/Overtime

- All series are 4-point series (QF, SF, Final). The first team to 4 points will win the series.
- If Game 3 ends with both teams tied at 3-points each, a Game 4 will be scheduled.
- If Game 4 ends in a tie, the game will go into Overtime.
- Overtime will be 5 on 5 and 10-minutes running time. The first goal scored will win the game and series.
- If the game is still tied at the end of the Overtime period, a second Overtime period will be played **if there is time available**.
 - This will be decided by the League and the Rink Attendant will advise officials of the League's decision.
- If there is no time available, a Game 5 will be scheduled.
- **TIME OUTS:**
 - ONLY in Semi Final and Finals
 - 1 per team, per game
 - 30 seconds



AP Call Ups

- Section 5.3, Page 10-11 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- **U7 to U10**
 - A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a lower tier of the same age division
 - A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division
- **U11 to U13**
 - A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a lower tier of the same age division
 - A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate **One Year below** the age division
 - A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division
- **U14 to U21**
 - A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate in a lower tier of the same age division
 - A player may be brought up from a chain affiliate **up to Two Years below** the age division
 - A player may be brought up from a house league affiliate of the same age division



AP Restrictions

- Section 5.3, Page 10-11 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- Individual players from "Chain Affiliation" teams may be used a maximum **five (5) times** as an AP in regular season or playoff games.
 - The five (5) games played, may include a **maximum of two (2) playoff games.**
 - Players may only play with one Affiliated team.
- Individual players from "House League Affiliation" teams may be used a maximum of **five (5) times** as an AP in regular season or playoff games.
 - The five (5) games played, may include a **maximum of two (2) playoff games.**
 - Players may only play on one Select team.
- A team may ONLY call up an AP if the team is below their minimum bench strength and may only call up enough APs to reach their appropriate minimum bench strength.
- Teams may use a **maximum of five (5) APs in any one game.**
- If a Chain Affiliate or House League Affiliate AP exceeds or violates these restrictions, they will be considered ineligible players.



Minimum Bench Strength

- Section 5.4, Page 11-12 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- **U7 to U9 Minimum Bench Strength:**
 - 13 players (including goalies)
 - If a team has 12 or less players available, an AP player can be called up
 - **Maximum Bench Strength:** 16 skaters and 2 goalies
- **U10 to U21 Minimum Bench Strength:**
 - 15 players (including goalies)
 - If a team has 14 or less players available, an AP player can be called up
 - **Maximum Bench Strength:** 18 skaters and 2 goalies
- GOALIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE MINIMUM BENCH STRENGTH COUNT
- Exceptions can be made if the team is at minimum bench strength but does not have a goalie



Procedure for Protests

- Section 16.1, Page 38 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- Protests regarding games played must be made in writing via email to the League Office. Such protests must include a summary of any evidence to be submitted to support the protest. A copy of the protest will be forwarded to the other club by the League Office.
- **Timing:**
 - Must be delivered by the protesting Club to the NYHL Office within 48 hours of the incident under protest.
- **Form of Protest:**
 - The protest will be in writing and must stipulate the rule/regulation under which the protest is laid and must be countersigned (or CC'd on the email) by the Club President or NYHL Club Contact of the protesting Club.
 - Any evidence in support of the protest must be included.
 - All protests will be heard by a Special Committee.
 - Both teams will be notified of the date, time and place of the hearing, and both must be represented at the hearing. (if required)
 - The protest Fee (see Schedule A Fines and Fees) will be invoiced to the Club following the outcome of the protest and is payable within 48 hours of the invoice time.
 - If a protest is withdrawn by the sender, the fee will be invoiced and is payable within 48 hours.



Protesting an Ineligible Player

- Section 16.2, Page 39 in [NYHL Rules and Regulations](#)
- Teams wishing to protest ineligible players must notify the Referee prior to the conclusion of the game.
- Alleged ineligible players are to have their name, team name and number printed on paper supplied by the Timekeeper.
- The requested players will then **sign their names and date of birth beside the printed name**.
- Teams may request the signatures of a maximum of two (2) opposing players.
- A formal protest must still be presented to the League Office.
- It is the bench staff's responsibility to ensure their lineup on the game sheet is accurate.
- Bench staff are encouraged to verify their lineup with the Timekeeper prior to the start of the game.



Awards

- Championship teams from U7 to U15 will receive their trophies at the Challenge of Champions weekend, April 26 and April 27.
- Championships teams from U16 to U21 will receive championship sweaters after their championship game.
- Post-game pictures/celebrations on the ice are allowed at the discretion of the rink staff.

