HNB FEMALE PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS
UPDATED 2026-2027 SEASON

CLASSIFICATION

1. In order for an **age class** to have a championship, there must be at least 3 teams registered in that age class.

2. For provincial championship play, all female Association/Community Club teams, will be ranked as AA or A.

3. Female U11, U13, U15 and U18 teams who participate in the Female Provincial League are eligible to attend Provincials. Female travel teams must participate in a minimum of 10 games prior to February 15 in order to participate in Provincials. *At the discretion of the Female Commission, travel teams may be able to attend provincials when the remainder of their minimum games will be taking place after provincials.* A minimum of **six** of these games must be against Female Provincial League teams. **Four** of these games can be against other travel teams. Written confirmation of each team's **decision to attend** Provincials must be provided to the Hockey New Brunswick Female Commission by **December 15th**.

QUALIFICATION

4. To participate in provincial championships an association/community club must have a minimum of 8 players, 1 of which must be a goaltender, duly registered with the NBMHC in that division and category of play.

5. There shall be no provincial competition for the U7 and U9 divisions.

6. If the team members and the officials do not speak the same language during provincial playoffs, before the beginning of the game, a bilingual person must be identified who could help the officials better communicate their decisions, and inversely, in order to avoid any needless confusion.

HOSTING OF PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

7. All teams, excluding the host, will pay a maximum entry fee of $1,000 per team.

8. The HNB Female Commission shall award the right to host Provincial Championship. Notices shall be forwarded to all Associations from the HNB Female Commission Chair within 7 days of site identification.

PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES & REGULATIONS

9. Schedules must be approved by the Female Commission. Draft schedules are included as an appendix. Note, the number of teams attending may change based off which teams declare to attend. Changes to the schedule must be approved by the Female Commission.

10. Team Rosters - prior to the commencement of Provincial Championships, copies of the HNB Player Roster Forms, including affiliated players, shall be submitted by the HNB office to the Tournament Director. This roster will be frozen, and players shall not be on two frozen rosters simultaneously.

11. There shall be a Team Meeting held prior to the start of the tournament. This meeting may be held by virtually or by conference call. All teams must have a registered team official, or a designate confirmed in writing, present for this meeting or the team forfeits all right of protest or appeal.

12. At the team Meeting, the host (Tournament director or District Director) and NBFHC representative shall:

a) Examine all Team Rosters, (including affiliates). Should a player not be listed on the official roster, they are not eligible for play. This review will be conducted with Team officials present.
b) Go over the Provincial Championship Regulations and answer any questions.

13. Prior to the start of each provincial game there will be a 3-minute warm-up.

14. *Periods can be a minimum of 12 minutes long and can be a maximum of 15 minutes long depending on ice availability. The organizing committee must inform the teams prior to the start of the tournament. All games in the Provincials must have the same period lengths.*

15. The ice must be resurfaced before the start of each game.

16. During round robin play, there will not be any time-outs granted.

17. In the 3rd period, if there is a 7-goal differential, the game will run at straight time for the remainder of that game.

18. Home team will wear dark jerseys, visiting team will wear white jerseys. If teams (at the recreational category) do not have two sets of jerseys, they need to inform the host organizing committee to coordinate a second set of jerseys, should there be a conflict.

19. During cross-over/semi-final and final games, one time-out shall be granted in the first 3 periods of play, and one time-out granted during each overtime period.

20. The 1 referee and 2 linesmen system shall be used in all HNB playoff and provincial games.

21. All minor officials including scorers, timekeepers are to be provided by the Host Association.

22. Tied games in round robin play shall remain a tie.

23. The tie breaking sequence will only come into effect once round robin play has been completed. **These tie breaking rules apply to all HNB sanctioned Provincials.**

Tie Breaking Sequence

Two Teams Tied
If two or more teams are tied at the conclusion of a round robin series, then the following procedure will be used to determine the final ranking before the semi-final and final games are played.

23.1.1 The winner of the round robin game between the two tied teams gains the higher position.

23.1.2 The team with the most wins in the round robin gains the higher position.

23.1.3 If the two teams are still tied after 23.1.1 and 23.1.2 have been applied, then the team with the best goal average gains the higher position. The goal average of a team is to be determined in the following manner:

Total number of goals for divided by the total number of goals for and against. NOTE: All round robin games are included.

Example: For = 10 goals against = 4 goals

Percentage: 10/10+4 = .714

NOTE: The higher percentage gains the higher position

23.1.4 If the two teams are still tied after 23.1.1, 23.1.2 and 23.1.3 have been applied, then the team which scored the first goal in the game between the tied teams gains the higher position.

23.1.5 If the two teams are still tied after 23.1.1, 23.1.2, 23.1.3 and 23.1.4 have been applied, the team with the least number of minutes in penalties throughout all the round robin games, gains the higher position.

23.1.6 If the two teams are still tied after 23.1.1, 23.1.2, 23.1.3, 23.1.4, and 23.1.5 have been applied, a single coin toss will determine which team gains the higher position.

Three or More Teams Tied
Note: The three-team tiebreaker is used to determine the seeding of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd seed. If any step in the tiebreaker only seeds one team, that team assumes that position. The three-team tiebreaker will continue to determine the seeding of the two remaining teams. **At no time will teams using this formula go back to the two-team tiebreaker**

23.2 If three teams or more are tied, the point record established in the games among the tied teams only will be used as the first tie breaking formula in deciding which team(s) shall advance.

23.2.1 The team with the most wins, in games among the three teams, would gain the highest position.

23.2.2 If teams are still tied after 23.2.1 has been applied, then the team with the best goal average, gains the highest position. The goal average of a team is to be determined in the following manner: total number of goals for divided by total number of goals for and against.

NOTE: All round robin games are included

Example: For = 10 goals against = 4 goals
Percentage 10+4 = .714

NOTE: The highest percentage gains the highest position(s).

The exercise of 23.2.2 establishes the team or teams with the highest position(s) by percentage. These teams will advance. If there are still teams tied, they go to the next step. **They do not go back to the "Two Team Tiebreaker."**

Example;

A. Team A - .714 = 1 seed - Advances
Team B - .500 = 3 seed – Does not advance Team C - .650 = 2 seed – Advances
B. Team A - .714 = 1 seed – Advances
Team B - .500 = Still tied with team C – go to next step 23. 2.3. Team C- .500 = Still tied with team B – go to next step 23.2.3.
C. Team A –. 650 = Still tied with team B – go to next step 23.2.3. Team B - .650 = Still tied with team A – go to next step 23.2.3. Team C - .500 = Does not advance

23.2.3 If teams are still tied after 23.2.1 and 23.2.2. The team with the fewest goals against (all round robin games played) will gain the highest position.

23.2.4 If the two teams are still tied after 23.2.1, 23.2.2, and 23.2.3 have been applied, then the team which scored the first goal in the game between the tied teams gains the higher position.

23.2.5 If the two teams are still tied after 23.2.1, 23.2.2, 23.2.3, and 23.2.4 have been applied, the team with the least number of minutes in penalties throughout all of the round robin games, gains the higher position.

23.2.6 If the two teams are still tied after 23.2.1, 23.2.2, 23.2.3, 23.2.4, and 23.2.5 have been applied, a single coin toss will determine which team gains the higher position.

24. For single or deciding game in Provincial Championship playoffs, if at the end of regulation time, the score of a game is tied, proceed as per Hockey Canada Official Playing Rule 10.16.

Overtime format

a) In the final game, if the score is tied after regulation time, the following shall take place;

(1). If the Referee feels it is necessary, he may order the ice to be re-surfaced at the end of the third regulation period. If the ice is not resurfaced, the teams will not change.

(2). The puck shall be faced-off at centre ice and the play shall continue with a 10-minute sudden victory overtime period. ***All Overtime periods be 3 on 3 plus a goalie.***

(3). If the score is still tied after the sudden victory 10- minute overtime period, the teams would take the normal between period break and a return to play 20-minute sudden victory periods. The teams will now change ends.

b). Any overtime shall be considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties shall remain in force.

25. The winning team at the Provincial tournament shall be declared Provincial Champion and be awarded A championship banner. Each Member of the winning team shall be presented with a NBMHC gold medallion and a Champions ball cap while each member of the runner-up team shall be presented with a silver medallion.