

Gay Games 9 – Cleveland Ice Hockey Tournament Rules

Points of Emphasis and Player Conduct

Player conduct:

All Ice Hockey participants and officials will be held to the Gay Games 9 Code of Conduct <http://www.gg9cle.com/participate/policies/code-of-conduct/>

Players should conduct themselves with good sportsmanship on and off the ice both with other players and the officials.

Fighting

Fighting will not be tolerated in the tournament. Fighting will result in the assessment of major/game misconduct penalties (ejection from that game and suspension from the next scheduled game). Players who receive 2 or more fighting penalties will be subject to additional supplemental discipline as deemed necessary/appropriate by the tournament directors.

For the safety and enjoyment of all participants, any player who is observed as being under the influence of alcohol or other illicit substances will not be allowed to participate in play.

Playing Rule Summary

All games will be played according to USA Hockey Adult No-Check rulebook. (<http://www.usahockeyrulebook.com/page/show/1015030-home>) except as noted below:

- The decisions of the on-ice officials are final.
- All other matters relating to the conduct of games will be decided by the Tournament Directors and Tournament Committee.
- Slapshots will be allowed.
- Players must wear a HECC approved hockey helmet with **AT LEAST** a HECC approved half shield. Full shields and full cages are recommended.
- All players including goalkeepers must comply with all other USA Hockey equipment rules.
- A player may play for one (1) team per division (Mens'/Mixed or Womens). No player may play on more than one team within a division. Rosters spots are non-transferrable
- Players must play in at least two (2) round-robin games to be eligible for the playoffs and finals.
- Teams may replace goal tenders only in the event of injury or sickness. Any goaltender roster substitution must be approved by the tournament directors.
- Team rosters must be submitted and recorded on the official game sheet prior to each game.
- Automatic icing (center red line) will apply.
- There is no two-line offsides rules.
- Tagup offsides applies.
- Team Time-out: one 30-second time-out permitted, per game.
- Mercy Rule: If the score difference is (6) goals or more at any time during the third period, the game clock goes to running time. If the score difference is less than six goals, stopped time is reinstated.

Tournament Play Procedure

The following game and penalty times will be used for all playoff and championship games:

Pre-game warmup: 3 minutes

Periods: 12 minute stop time

Period break: 1 minute

Minor penalties: 2:00

Major penalties: 5:00

Misconduct penalties: 10:00

Tie games:

Non-playoff games may end in a tie (no overtime)

Scoring

Each period is treated as a “game” and the team that scores the most goals in that **period** will win the points. Eight total points are awarded for each game. Two points are awarded to the winning team at the end of each period. One point is awarded to both teams if score is tied at the end of each period. Zero points are awarded to the team with the least points at the end of each period.

Two points are also awarded to the winner of the game.

If the game ends in a tie, each team is awarded one point.

There is no overtime in round-robin games.

Should two teams be tied after the round robin, the ranking will be determined by the best of the following statistics:

- a) Head to head
- b) Number of wins
- c) Least Goals against
- d) +/- Differential
- e) Most Goals for

If three teams are tied after the round robin, the ranking will be determined in above priority starting with Number of Wins.

SEMI-FINAL AND CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

The top 4 teams in each division (5 divisions), based on round-robin scoring, will proceed to the semi-final rounds.

- 1st place plays 4th
- 2nd place plays 3rd

Semi-final and championship games are scored in the traditional manner (the team with the most goals at the end of the game wins).

In the event of a tie score at the end of regulation play, semi-final and championship games will proceed to a one minute intermission followed by a 5-minute, 4 on 4 sudden death overtime period. Should the score remain tied, a shoot-out will follow.

Shoot out procedure

- Coaches/team captains designate 3 players to participate in the shoot-out
- Teams will not change ends
- The designated players from each team will alternate in taking shots on the opposing goal as prescribed in the penalty shot process of USA Hockey Rules. At the conclusion of all of the shots, the team with the highest # of successful shots wins.
- If the teams are still tied at the end of this procedure, a sudden death shoot-out will commence. Shooters will continue to shoot until a winner is determined. Visitor team shoots first. If after the first three shooters, the score is still tied, a sudden death shoot-out (one skater each) shall continue until a winner is determined. All skaters on the players' bench are required to shoot before a player may shoot for a second time.
- NOTE: Any player serving a penalty at the end of regulation play is **NOT** eligible to participate in the shootout.