

FCPHL/Beaver Meadows Pond Hockey Tournament 2008
Official Tournament Rules

1.0 Players

The tournament is open to all eligible players regardless of ability.

- 1.1 All participants must be between 18 and 99 years of age on date of tournament. Exceptions are at the discretion of the tournament committee.
- 1.2 All players must complete and sign a registration form and pay all fees before participation in the tournament is allowed.

2.0 Equipment

- 2.1 All players must wear hockey skates. No goalie sticks or goalie equipment is allowed.
- 2.2 Each player must supply a solid color light and a dark sweater. Protective equipment is encouraged. Natural ice conditions are variable and cracks and rough ice are normal. Shin guards, elbow pads, hockey gloves and helmets are encouraged. Injured players will not be replaced.

3.0 Teams

There will be 4 players on each team. Once tournament games have begun, there will be no player trades, or reassignment. Players injured, sick or otherwise unable to play will not be replaced. The tournament is designed for 16 teams.

- 3.1 Team Formation
This is an open competition tournament. Players form their own 4 person teams. Team/player registration must be completed on the FCPHL website.

4.0 Tournament Format

Two days of tournament play will be scheduled.

- 4.1 Each team will play 3 games on Day 1. The first game opponents will be assigned by a random draw. Subsequent game pairings will be based upon game results. Winning teams will play winning teams; losing teams will play losing teams.
- 4.2 Day 2 will be single-elimination play. Teams will be divided into upper and lower brackets of eight teams each depending upon results of Day 1. Teams will be seeded within brackets based upon Day 1 results. See Table 1 for additional details.
- 4.3 Game Winner
 - 4.3.1 The game winner will be the team with the most goals at the end of regulation play. Each game (Day 1 and 2) must end with a winner.
 - 4.3.2 The winner of tie games on Day 1 will be determined as follows:
The game will proceed immediately (1 minute break) to sudden death with 3 players on each team. Each team will choose the opposing teams player to be eliminated. Each team will defend the goal defended in the 2nd half. The Home team will start with the puck.

4.3.3 The winner of tie games on Day 2 will be determined as follows:
The game will proceed immediately (1 minute break) to a 5 minute overtime period. Each team will defend the goal defended in the 2nd half throughout any overtime period. The Home team will start with the puck. If no winner is determined after the overtime period, the game will immediately proceed (1 minute break) to sudden death play. The Visiting team will start with the puck during the sudden death period.

4.4 Tournament Champion

The Tournament Champion will be the team that wins the Upper bracket final game of the elimination day of the tournament and is entitled to all the perks and benefits of the 2008 Beaver Cup Tournament Champion Team.

The winner of the Lower Bracket will be the Bronze Division Champion and team members will be immortalized on the "Little Beaver Cup"

5.0 Game Format

5.1 General Rules

Pond hockey is a game of honor. Players are expected to police each other, to know and honor the rules of the game. The tournament directors expect spirited, competitive play with a minimum of intervention by the rink monitor. **Players must play the puck, not the opponents' body.** Players consistently violating the rules of the game will be assessed a major penalty (see Article 6.0). Pond hockey is generally played with a minimum of protective equipment. Gloves, elbow pads and shin guards are strongly recommended. Head protection is recommended but optional. Any action that endangers the player, or the players opponent may be assessed a penalty. Examples include high sticking, slap shots, high passes (above the waist), and playing recklessly or out of control.

5.2 Game Duration and Format

Each game will consist of two, 15 minute, running clock halves. A 5 minute half time intermission will be observed. Each game (except for overtime on Day 1) will be 4 on 4 formats. There is no minimum number of players. Teams may play short-handed in case of injury, sickness or ejection. The Home team will wear light sweaters and will start the game with the puck and choose which goal to defend. Teams will exchange ends at half time. The Visiting Team will wear dark sweaters and start the 2nd half with the puck.

5.3 Game Play

General hockey rules and strategy are to be observed. No slapshots are allowed. No checking is allowed. Saucer passes (below the waist) are allowed. Contacting the puck with a stick above the waist is a minor penalty. Pucks stuck in the "boards" or snow bank that are playable may be dug out and immediately returned to play by either team. Should the puck leave the playing surface or be otherwise unplayable, the team that

last touches the puck loses possession. The puck will be returned to play at the spot the puck left the playing surface.

5.4 Goal Scoring

A goal is scored whenever the puck legally strikes the back of the goal. A goal must be scored from the attacking half of the rink, and may be last touched by either team. The puck must be propelled by the blade of the stick or deflected off of a player's skate or body. Pucks may not be intentionally kicked into the goal by the attacking team.

5.5 Goal Defending

Goals may be defended by blocking an opponent's shot with the stick blade or skate blade. Players may not lay their stick or body on the ice to attempt to prevent a goal. If the player or the player's equipment falls upon the ice, the player must get up or retrieve their equipment immediately to avoid a delay of game penalty. Players must not "glove" a puck below the knees. A gloved puck above the knees may be dropped on either side of the goal mouth but must be immediately returned to play.

5.6 Puck Restart

The puck is restarted anytime a goal is scored, the puck is returned after leaving the playing surface, or after a penalty is awarded. A defender must give his opponent 1 stick length of space during a restart. Neither team is allowed to delay the restart of the puck. Teams must give their opponents ½ ice after a goal is scored to avoid a delay of game penalty. The team restarting the puck does not have to wait until all opponents are clear of the zone, and opponents must remain clear of the play until the puck has been brought past ½ ice by the restarting team. The team restarting the puck must advance the puck in a timely manner to avoid a delay of game penalty.

6.0 Penalties

Penalties will be called for rule infractions. Penalties called by the rink monitor are final. Penalties will result in a goal awarded to the opposing team as well as possession of the puck.

- 6.1 Minor Penalties include: illegal touching of the puck, checking, delay of game, and similar infractions. Minor penalties will be announced, and a goal awarded by the Rink Monitor. Play will commence immediately.
- 6.2 Major Penalties include any action that could possibly injure another player or abuse of another player (either team), abuse of the Rink Monitor or other Tournament Official. Abuse includes threatening, yelling, swearing or arguing about calls. In addition to a goal awarded and loss of puck possession, major penalties result in immediate ejection from the game. Two major penalties received by any player will result in ejection from the tournament without refund.

7.0 Officials

7.1 Rink Monitor

There will be one Rink Monitor assigned to each game. The Rink Monitor will be the only and final arbiter of scoring, puck restart, penalties and infractions. Rink Monitor duties include administering the game, recording scoring and major penalties and enforcing the rules of the game.

7.2 Tournament Officials

There will be 3 tournament officials who will have the final say regarding tournament format, and any change to the official rules. Rules and format will only be changed to benefit the tournament or in case of hazardous weather or ice conditions. Changes in games or tournament format will not result in refunds to players.

Table 1 Elimination Day Seeding and Tie Breaking Rules

Day 1 will result into 2 teams with 3-0 records, 6 Teams with 2-1 records, 6 teams with 1-2 records and 2 teams with 0-3 records. Teams with 3-0 and 2-1 records will advance to the Upper Bracket and contend for the Beaver Cup. Teams with 1-2 and 0-3 records will be in the Bronze Bracket and contend for awards to be determined by the tournament directors.

Teams in each bracket will be seeded 1-8 and placed into a single elimination bracket. Seeding will be based upon:

- 1 Record
- 2 Head to Head play
- 3 Fewest goals allowed
- 4 Most goals scored
- 5 Puck flip
- 6 Captains arm wrestle.