

USPFC ICE HOCKEY-2026

GUIDING BODIES

United States Police and Fire Championships (USPFC)

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USA Hockey Inc.

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EVENTS

Division 1:

- Teams entered from a department/agency with advanced players.
- Previous winners of Division 2 may be placed in Division 1.

Division 2:

- Teams entered with novice or intermediate players only. ***A novice player is described as someone who picked up the game as an adult and/or is newer to the game.
***Higher caliber players are not allowed in this Division.

The USPFC may move teams into either category based on their performance during round robin play.

For all events, Roster will follow USA Hockey guidelines and may include a maximum of 20 team members: 18 players, 2 goalkeepers. Each team is permitted to register one non-playing coach. **Every player must be a current member of USA Hockey.** A team must have at least 12 persons registered on or before the bracketing deadline. Teams not complying with this may be eliminated. Any deviation from this must be approved by the USPFC Director for Ice Hockey.

Entry Deadline: May 1, 2026

EQUIPMENT

Regulation pucks.

Bracket boards. An up-to-date bracket board must be posted in a conspicuous position at each facility used for the tournament.

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Personal equipment, including uniforms and sticks, will be supplied by the individual competitors and shall comply with the safety requirements as specified in the USA Hockey Rulebook. All players on a team will wear similar jerseys with individual numbers on the back. Each team should be equipped with dark and light (home and away) jerseys for all players.

All required safety equipment, including helmets, must be worn in accordance with the USA Hockey rules. The USPFC strongly recommends the use of face shields.

BRACKETING

A “Pool Play - Round Robin followed by Single Elimination Playoff” tournament format will be used. The format will be based on the number of teams entered and venues available to allow teams to play the maximum number of games possible. If fewer than 8 teams enter, this event will be held as a straight round robin tournament with no additional playoff.

POOL PLAY

If pool play is used:

- All games will be played to determine a winner. If games in pool play are tied at the end of regulation, the USA Hockey shootout procedure will be used to determine the winner.
- Tie breakers for determining standing in Pool Play will follow the USA Hockey guidelines listed in the Annual Guide.
- In pool play, 3 points will be awarded for a win in regulation; 2 points will be awarded for a win in a shootout; 0 points for a loss in regulation; and 1 point for a loss in a shootout.
- If at least sixteen (16) teams are entered, the top two teams (for a total of 8 teams) from each pool will advance to a single elimination playoff for Division 1.
- Teams will be seeded into the playoffs using a blind draw, with the first-place teams being seeded first. Of the remaining teams, the next 8 highest finishing teams will advance to a single elimination playoff for Division 2. Teams will be seeded into the playoffs using a blind draw, with the highest finishing teams being seeded first. If fewer than 16 teams are entered, only the top 8 teams will advance to a single elimination playoff.

All playoff games will be played until a winner is determined. If a game is tied at the end of regulation, one 5-minute stop time sudden victory period will be played immediately following regulation time. If the game is still tied at the end of this overtime period, the USA Hockey shootout procedure will be used to determine the winner. In the Gold Medal and Bronze Medal games, one 15-minute stop time sudden victory overtime period will be played. If the game is still tied, the USA Hockey shootout procedure will be used to determine the winner.

GENERAL SPORTS RULES for Ice Hockey

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All events will be a "No check" tournament. No body checking is permitted.

A mandatory team meeting will be held prior to the beginning of competition. Only the team Captain and/or a team representative is required to attend. (2 maximum per team). Any deviation from this must be approved by the USPFC Director for Ice Hockey.

The ice should be resurfaced after every game. For all playoff games the ice should be resurfaced following the end of the second period.

Teams will be given a 5-minute warm-up period.

All games will consist of one 15-minute run time period, followed by two 15-minute stop periods. No time adjustment will be made for penalties assessed during running time.

If at anytime there is a goal differential of 6 goals the game will be played using running time effective the next face-off. If, following the implementation of running time, the differential is reduced to 4 the game will revert to stop time.

FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!

If a player is involved in a fight during the tournament, that player will be expelled from the remainder of the tournament.

Additional sanctions for fighting may be levied by the USPFC.

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AWARDS

A maximum of 42 sets of medals will be required (1st through 3rd place) per division offered. All medals should be awarded on the ice immediately following the completion of the game in which the medal is determined.

ATTENTION COORDINATORS

**THE GENERAL RULES APPLY TO ALL SPORTS.
YOU MUST BE FAMILIAR WITH ITS CONTENTS.**

**PRECISE RESULTS MUST BE FORWARDED
TO THE HOST COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
CONCLUSION OF THIS SPORT**

The USPFC Director assigned to your sport is knowledgeable and experienced in providing assistance during the preparation and running of the sport. Questions, a detailed accounting of your preparations, and any area requiring approval of the USPFC shall be submitted in a timely manner to this USPFC Director.

The USPFC Directors want to work with you to make your sport a success.

PLEASE USE THE USPFC DIRECTORS AS A RESOURCE