

April 24, 2019

ICE HOCKEY

Larry Bull, Cherry Creek District Athletic Director

Chair

CR 19

Report No.

I. MAJOR CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S REPORT:

- A. The following referee system will be utilized for officials during varsity games. In accordance with the NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book listed under Rule 5, Section 2, Article 1: The two-official system consists of two referees. The three-official system consists of two referees and one linesman. The four-official system consists of two referees and two linesmen.

- D. Tournament dates: The Regular Season will end on Saturday February 22, 2020. 1st round games will be scheduled for February 25-26, 2020. Second round and quarterfinal round playoff games are planned to be played February 28-29, 2020. State Semifinal/Championship games March 5, and March 9, 2020 @ The Pepsi Center. These are tentative dates and could change depending on Ice Rink availability.

II. RATIONALE:

- A. The CHOA has requested we follow the NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book recommendations. Varsity games will require the use of the three-official system, however during the regular season host schools can choose to utilize the four-official system. All bracket playoff games will use the four-official system.

- B. Tentative playoff dates were established for the next two-year cycle. The Semifinal/Championship dates are subject to change due to venue availability.

III. FINANCIAL IMPACT:

- A. None

- B. None

IV. DATES:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| First Practice NFHS Calendar Week 20: | November 18 |
| First Scrimmage Date NFHS Calendar Week 20: | November 23 |
| First Competition NFHS Calendar Week 22: | December 2 |
| Regular Season Ends NFHS Calendar Week 34: | February 22 |
| Waivers Due to CHSAA office: | February 22 |
| Seeding Committee Meeting: | February 23 |
| #First Round (Home Site-Higher Seed) NFHS Calendar Week 34 | February 25-26 |
| #Date must be mutually agreed upon or first round will be played on | February 26 |
| Second Round (Home Site – Final Ranking top 4 seeds) | February 28 |
| Quarterfinal Round (Home Site – Final Ranking top 4 seeds) | February 29 |

*Dates subject to change due to venue availability.

V. QUALIFYING FORMAT AND ASSIGNMENT:

| FOOTHILLS | PINNACLE | PEAK |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Regis Jesuit | Ralston Valley | Aspen |
| Mountain Vista | Fort Collins | Steamboat Springs |
| Castle View | Resurrection Christian | Summit |
| Cherry Creek | Monarch | Glenwood Springs |
| Valor Christian | Standley Lake | Battle Mountain |
| Chaparral | Dakota Ridge | Crested Butte |
| HIGHLANDS | APEX | SUMMIT |
| Heritage | Rampart | Air Academy |
| Columbine | Palmer | Pine Creek |
| Mullen | Coronado | Cheyenne Mountain |
| Chatfield | Woodland Park | Colorado Academy |
| Kent Denver | Liberty | Pueblo County |
| Denver East | Doherty | Lewis-Palmer |

Teams are required to play each team in their conference twice with both games counted toward the final regular season standings to determine the conference champion. Each conference will be responsible for their regular season schedule. Conference teams cannot schedule one another during the out-of-conference (non-conference) slate.

The RPI (Rating Percentage Index) will be used to capture the twenty-four-team playoff bracket. Conference champions will automatically qualify for the playoff bracket, using in-conference points (not the RPI). Teams will be placed on the bracket utilizing the final RPI rankings. The seeding committee shall use the final RPI rankings to place teams on playoff bracket. Teams listed on the final RPI rankings as numbers 1-16 will be placed on the bracket as listed. Teams listed numbers 17-24 in the final RPI rankings will take geography and first round conference opponents into consideration when being positioned on the playoff bracket. Regular season games must be scheduled with teams in the other five conferences to fill the (19) nineteen games allowed by the CHSAA Bylaws. Games will be scheduled on a two-year cycle with reverse home and away contests or home/home and away/away contract.

- A designated conference liaison will forward the final conference regular season finish of the top 24 teams to CHSAA on Sunday, prior to the 1st round for placement on the play-off bracket.
- The six regular season conference champions are guaranteed to be placed on the playoff bracket. The remaining eighteen teams will be selected by using the final RPI rankings.
- Teams are placed on the playoff bracket based on final RPI (Rating Percentage Index) standings numbers 1-16.
- Teams placed on the playoff bracket based on final RPI (Rating Percentage Index) standings numbers 17-24 will take geography and first round conference opponents into consideration.
- For the first round of the playoffs the top eight teams with the highest RPI ranking will be placed on the bracket and receive a bye into the second round.

- The four highest ranked teams in the final RPI (Ratings Percentage Index) from the regular season standings will host the second round and quarterfinal round games.
- Conference Champions are crowned by using the total point accumulation system of (2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for a loss) in the (10) ten conference games.
- In the event of a tie for the Conference Champion (Automatic Qualifier), the following tie-breaking format will be applied:
 - Head-to-Head competition between tied teams. If a three-way tie occurs, once the tie is broken between three teams we revert back to Head-to-Head for the remaining two teams.
 - Most wins against conference opponents.
 - Win/loss (no score considered) against the highest finisher within the conference. If that does not break the tie, compare the tied teams' outcomes against the next highest finisher and son down through the conference.
 - Fewest goals allowed in conference games.
 - Least amount of penalty minutes in conference games.
 - Coin Flip.

NOTE: The final RPI (Rating Percentage Index) will be utilized for the conference and non-conference games for selection and placement onto the playoff bracket.

- Teams must secure ice in the event that they are eligible to serve as the playoff host.
- Higher seeded teams will be designated home team for all playoff bracket game including the semifinal games and Championship contest.

What happens if two teams are tied in the final RPI standings?

We have created a tiebreaker for this unlikely scenario. It is as follows:

1. Head-to-head result between the two teams
2. Winning percentage
3. Opponents' winning percentage
4. Opponents' opponents winning percentage
5. Highest-rated win (according to the final RPI standings)
6. Next-highest rated win (exhaust all possibilities)
7. Coin flip

The only reason for the coin flip is as a last result if all other scenarios happen to be tied.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF BRACKET



- First round games will be hosted by the highest seeded team listed on the playoff bracket.
- During first round games, the host school is responsible for assigning the four officials (2-referee, 2-linesmen).
- The higher seeded team will be listed as the “Home” team.
- Second round and quarterfinal games will be hosted by the top four ranked teams recorded in the final RPI (Rating Percentage Index).
- The four officials for quarterfinal round games through the Championship contest will be assigned through the CHSAA office.
- Semifinal/Championship games will be hosted by CHSAA at the Pepsi Center.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. All team members including back-up goalies must be designated on SportsEngine to meet the game minimum requirement. During to post-season playoffs, the inactive goalie does not have to meet the minimum requirement and does not require a waiver.
- B. Waivers for playoff eligibility and ALL supporting documentation must be submitted to the CHSAA office on the Saturday morning that ends the regular season of play (February 22). The waivers must be received by 8:00 a.m. with supporting documentation. The waivers must have documented the beginning and ending date of the game(s), in which are listed on the waiver. Schools will be notified on Monday if the waiver meets the criteria set forth by the ice hockey committee. If the Waiver Committee requests clarification or additional supporting/supplemental documentation, the school must submit the information before 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday prior to the first round of the playoff bracket. There will be no appeals to the Waiver Committee after the waiver process has been completed.**
- C. All teams that qualify for the playoff bracket must submit an Ice Hockey Roster Form on Saturday, February 22, 2020 and Ice Hockey Waiver Form(s) (if applicable) on the Saturday, February 22. Waivers for playoff eligibility will only be accepted based on the following criteria: injury (to the player listed on the waiver), eligibility, illness, educational discipline, or death in family. Proper documentation is also required to be submitted with each waiver. If the player is competing on an outside team during the CHSAA season, supporting documents must be submitted with the waiver. Supplement documentation can be submitted before the committee assembles on Monday morning at 8:00 am. A waiver committee will be seated with representation from all four conferences along with the CHSAA liaison will serve to review all playoff waivers. The committee will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Monday prior to the first round of the beginning of the playoffs. Waivers will not be accepted after 8:00 a.m. Saturday, February 16.
- D. A one-page checklist for Sportsengine scorers will be printed in the Ice Hockey Bulletin and training for Sportsengine official game scorers can be completed on-line.
- E. Team playoff rosters can change from game-to game. All athletes listed on the 20-person playoff roster must meet the sixteen-game minimum requirement to be eligible. (Exception: Inactive Goalie)

- F. An informational packet will be sent to all host site directors for the playoff bracket.
- G. A mandatory head coach/officials meeting will take place 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game starting time. The referee shall receive verification from the coach that all participants are properly equipped and emphasize to the coach and captains that all participants are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship throughout the contest. The committee also approved that one ice-resurface (between the 1st and 2nd periods) can be eliminated if both coaches mutually agree it is in the best interest of the contest. This should help in some rinks to keep games starting on the scheduled time.
- H. The committee unanimously approved utilizing the three-official-system for the 2019-2020 regular season. Two referees and one linesman.
- I. The committee unanimously approved supporting Bylaw change 3610 and 3620 with an increase of the number of sub-varsity minimum game allowance and number of periods played.
- J. The use of a non-enclosed rink would be acceptable to host regular season varsity games if the following standards are met:
 - a. The ice surface must meet the minimum size recommendations listed in the NFHS Rules Book. Rule 1, Section 2 Articles 1-3
 - i. 200 feet long and 85 feet wide
 - ii. Corners shall be rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 20 feet to 28 feet
 - iii. Boards shall extend not less than 40 inches and not more than 48 inches above the level of the ice surface. Boards are recommended to be white in color and the bottom dasher yellow.
 - iv. The boards facing the ice shall be smooth and free any object that could cause injury to players.
 - b. The surface must be marked in accordance with NFHS Rules Book Rule 1, Sections 1-8.
 - c. Ice must be controlled by a refrigeration system
 - d. Temperature of ice maintained with refrigeration for games between 18-23 degrees
 - e. Team benches provided for the use of team personnel. Accommodate at least 20 persons with doors opening in the neutral zone.
 - f. Penalty benches for each team preferably separate from each other and away from either team bench.
 - g. Lighting must meet minimum requirements for an enclosed ice rink.
 - h. Facilities: Comparable heated locker rooms for both the home and visiting team; heated dressing room for the officials; accessibility to showers for the home and visiting teams and referees
 - i. Spectator seating available for both the home and visiting fans.
- K. The committee clarified the Goal Differential Rule (Mercy Rule): During the period of the use of a running game clock, the penalty should begin at the next drop of the puck and count down to the end of the penalty time assessed.
- L. Sub-varsity games will be scheduled to have three (3) fifteen-minute periods. One ice-resurface (between the 1st and 2nd periods) can be eliminated if both coaches mutually agree it is in the best interest of the contest. **There will be no overtime periods played at the sub-varsity level.**

- M. Sub-varsity players may gain post-season eligibility if: The sub-varsity player does not participate at any level of club winter hockey; the player has participated in (65%) sixty-five percent of the scheduled sub-varsity varsity games; and the sub-varsity player is able to replace a current rostered player that is unable to participate because of injury, eligibility, illness, educational discipline or death in the family.
- N. **If the home team chooses, the 2-Referee/2-Linesmen system can be utilized during Regular Season games.** For all Playoff Games, the 2-Referee/2Linesmen system will be used.

The CHOA will recommend the following State Adopted Rules:

- Game misconducts result in a game suspension
- 15 or more team penalties result in a game suspension for the coach
- 5 Penalties on a Player – Any player who incurs five penalties shall be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty and WILL serve an additional one-game suspension.
- Post-Game 10-minute Misconduct penalties are served at the beginning of the next game
- Mercy Rule - 6 Goal differential results in a running clock
- There shall be three periods, each consisting of 17 minutes of actual play, with recommended intermissions of 10-12 minutes each between periods.
- Playoff Overtime Procedure: Following the (2) two, eight-minute sudden victory (first goal scored) periods, full intermission and the teams will return to the ice and play 4-on-4.
- Shooting the puck toward the sideboards and glass in the neutral ice area during pre-game warm-up is prohibited.
- A 4-person officiating system can be utilized during regular season play – home team choice
- Playoffs – A 4-person officiating system will be utilized beginning in the first round of the bracket playoffs until the conclusion of the State Championship game.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Larry Bull, Chair, Cherry Creek School District; Eric Gustafson, Monarch; Bob Piccaro, Crested Butte; Lee LeJuavesse, Pueblo County; Dru Lucchesi, Aspen; Terita Walker, Denver East; Jamie Heiner, Valor Christian; Eric Hulen, Pine Creek; Brain Straub, Liberty; Dan Woodley, Regis Jesuit.