

## 2020 NFHL Spring Tournament Rules

1. The spring tournament is open to all teams in the NFHL (full and honorary members). It is first come, first serve and limited to a maximum of 28 teams.
2. All captains/coaches must check in at the Registration Table at least 30 minutes prior to every game.
3. Pool Play: games have 21-minute halves with a 3-minute halftime. No timeouts allowed. There will 5 minutes in between games. This structure may change each year depending on the number of teams participating in the tournament and the field time constraints.
4. Rules – unless otherwise stated in these rules, games will be officiated according to NCAA Rules.
  - a. In order for a game to be considered valid, 12 minutes of the game must be played.
  - b. There must be a minimum of 8 players (counting the goalie) on the field in order for the game to count. If there are less than 8 players, the team may forfeit and play the game anyhow.
  - c. If there is a tie after the first overtime, then it will go to a shoot-out as per NCAA rules.
  - d. Male Player Rule - “Up Two”:
    - i. Before the start of each game, the two opposing teams should confirm (with each other and the officials) how many male field players each team has on their roster (this does not include the goalie). The team with more male field players is allowed to play “up two” during regulation and overtime play. This does not include the goalie.
    - ii. For example, if Team A brings 1 male field player, and Team B brings 6 male field players, Team B is only allowed to play a maximum of 3 male field players at any one time. Team B is allowed to play “up two”.
    - iii. The number of male field players allowed (as determined prior to the start of the game), cannot be changed during the game - regardless of penalty cards or injuries.
5. Teams are obligated to play the game. If there are not enough players, the team is required to forfeit and find players from other teams who are willing to fill in where needed! Refs are paid regardless of whether the game occurs so it is best to play the game.
6. Teams Rosters – Captains must submit a complete roster listing players and coach’s names when they register at the tournament. Changes may be made prior to the start of the first game; however these changes must be submitted at the Registration Table (before the start of the first game).
  - a. Each team is required to show up with enough players to field a team.
  - b. Teams are allowed to have their school’s alumni on their roster as long as that player is on the roster prior to the first game.
  - c. In regards to teams who submit more than 1 team, you are not allowed to combine teams if you advance into playoffs. If you submit two teams, then each team is expected to remain separate for the duration of the tournament, regardless of who advances to playoffs.
7. Playoffs
  - a. Designated teams from each pool will advance to playoffs.
  - b. Standings are based on the following – (**CAPTAINS MUST REPORT YOUR SCORES AFTER EACH GAME**):
    - i. Total Points (3 – for win; 1 – for a tie, 0 for a loss)
    - ii. Goal Differential –goals scored minus goals allowed
    - iii. Head to Head – the two teams who are in a tie will have their games viewed for the tournament. Whichever team has the highest number of points in that outcome wins. For example, if Team A beats Team B during the tournament, in the event of a tie between Team A and Team B, Team A would advance.
    - iv. Goals Scored – total number of goals scored
    - v. Goals Allowed – total number of goals allowed
  - c. If a team elects not to participate in the play-offs, the team with the next best record can have their place. Teams who are unable to play in playoffs should let the person in charge at the field know that upon arrival at the field.