



Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) Tournament Rules and Regulations

The following Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) Rules and Regulations will be used specifically for governance of the Little Native Hockey League Tournament. All Tournament decisions and related activities for the participating teams, both on and off the ice, made by the Little Native Hockey League Executive Committee are final.

1. Team Eligibility:

The Little Native Hockey League Tournament is an Inter-Reserve Recreational Minor Hockey Tournament. All Teams must represent an Ontario First Nation in order to enter the tournament. For the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, a hockey season refers to the period September to March in any year.

2. Player Eligibility

- a) Players must have a valid "Certificate of Indian Status" indicating an Ontario First Nation; **OR**
- b) Players, without status cards from Ontario, must have at least one biological parent who has a "Certificate of Indian Status" card from an Ontario First Nation. Any player using their parents' status card **MUST** provide a "**Statement of Live Birth**" long form or **B.C.R. from their Parents' First Nation** which verifies that the parent is a member of that Ontario First Nation. Document **MUST** be received by the Host First Nation by the final deadline date.

3. Registration Deadline

Final Registration Deadline: January 15th prior to the next tournament

After January 15th, player additions to the roster can be made with a \$25.00 per player fee. Any player not registered with Hockey Canada in hockey season in which the tournament is held, must pay an additional fee of 15.00 for insurance.

Substitutions can be made after January 15th (with no additional fee); with the exception of additional player(s) not registered with Hockey Canada in the hockey season in which the tournament is held. Any player not registered with Hockey Canada in the hockey season in which the tournament is held, must pay an additional fee of 15.00 for insurance.

The LNHL Executive will review and will approve each team registration. Your team manager will be contacted prior to the tournament, if there are any potential player conflicts or non-compliance with the Registration criteria.

4. Team Registration through Room Roster – For the 2018, Little NHL Tournament, **all team registrations and hotel bookings must be completed through RoomRoster.**

<https://app.roomroster.com/events/3429/register>

Criteria & Check List

- Step 1: complete registration process through RoomRoster
- Step 2: send registration entry fee by certified cheque or money or to Little NHL at Box 136, M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0 or make online payment to lnhlregistration@lnhl.ca
- Step 3: release forms must be checked at Little NHL Registration on the Sunday, prior to the tournament week and must be kept at arena by the Team Manager
- Step 4: for players using their parent's status cards; a Statement of Live Birth (long form which list parent(s) and child's name) or First Nation B.C.R. stating parent(s) name and Band Number. This form must be checked in at LNHL Registration, prior to their first game. Team Manager is responsible for keeping any team documentation.
- Step 5: Residency Option Rule 7: A player seeking this option must be resident of the First Nation and the BCR from that community must state that the player is living on that First Nation. A letter from the School Principal is required that confirms that the player was registered with the school by September in the hockey season within which the tournament is held. A BCR or letter from the school principal with a date other than in rule 7 will not be accepted.

5. Home First Nation

Every player is expected to play for his/her First Nation community as indicated on their status card with the exception of those players who have used the residency option or have been released from his/her First Nation.

6. Residency Option: For On-Reserve Residents only

Players that meet the eligibility requirements under rule 3 (a) or (b) and live on a different Ontario First Nation, may play for that First Nation without being considered as a pick-up player and without requiring a player release from any other Ontario First Nation after proving residency as follows:

To prove residency, the team Manager must submit the following documents with the team registration prior to the final deadline:

- a) A BCR stating that the player is a resident of the First Nation as of the beginning of September in the hockey season in which the tournament is held; OR
- b) A letter from the school principal stating that the player was registered with the school as a student as of the beginning of the school year, in the hockey season in which the tournament is held.
(For example, a player who registers as a student in November will not be eligible to use this option to play in the LNHL tournament held in March of that hockey season).

7. Player Release Requirements

A player who is not playing for their home First Nation must obtain a signed player release from all relevant First Nations using the Official LNHL Player Release Form (found on LNHL website). This release form may only be approved/authorized by the following individuals of the First Nation providing the release and only one signature is required. Please request a signature in the following order:

- 1st President of the Minor Hockey Committee/Association
- 2nd In the absence of the above, the Manager of the LNHL team that has rights to the player and is willing to release the player
- 3rd In the absence of the above (President of the Minor Hockey Committee/Association and Manager of the LNHL team with rights to the player), the Chief of the relevant First Nation

Any team manager that feels they may have territorial rights to a neighbouring First Nation's player must notify the LNHL Executive in writing by January 15th. All Player disputes must be settled before February 15th.

8. Player Pick-up Limits

The Little NHL Executive Committee will use the latest available Indian Registry Results provided by INAC (to be posted on the LNHL website), to determine Total On-Reserve Populations of the Ontario First Nations. The on-reserve population list from INAC (to be posted on the LNHL website) will be used to determine the maximum number of Pick up players/team that your First Nation is allowed to bring to the tournament.

First Nation Total On-Reserve Population	The Maximum Number of Pick up players your First Nation is allowed per team is as follow:	
	Tyke, Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam & Midget Divisions	Girls Divisions ONLY
1 – 999	7	9
1000 – 1999	4	6
2000 – 4999	2	4
5000 or more	0	2

9. Teams Eligible to Pick-Up Players Only: Exception to Maximum Pick up

A team may pick up **one goalie** without using up one of their pick-up spots. All goalies are expected to play for their respective First Nation, unless he/she is released.

10. Team minimums and maximums

Each team may have a maximum of 17 skaters and 2 goalies registered to play in accordance with all eligibility rules. Each team must have at least 11 players registered to play prior to the tournament. Player pool can be accessed at the LNHL website at LNHL.ca. All teams must have 6 players ready to play at any game. At any time when a team has less than 6 players the game will be forfeited immediately, with the exception of the Tyke division.

11. Team Files & Managers' Duties

The LNHL Executive Committee and the HOST Committee NO LONGER require Copies of Status Cards or Birth Certificates. All team managers however, are required to keep these documents with them at each game during the tournament. All team managers must keep copies of all coaching staff qualifications and documents as well as the consent letter signed by a parent/guardian of the child is required to allow a player to play up a division pursuant to rule 18.

Onus will be placed on team Managers to ensure their team is properly registered.

12. Certification – Managers, Coaches and Trainers

In order to enhance the quality of the Tournament Experience for the players, referees, linesman, tournament organizers and spectators, the following certification is mandatory, unless otherwise approved by Hockey Canada through LNHL Executive Committee.

	Speak Out Certificate (Respect in Sports)	Coaching Certification Minimum N.C.C.P. Requirement: Intro. to Comp. Part A, Level One	Hockey Trainers Certificate Level 1 Trainer Certification	Transgender Training
Managers	X			X
Coaches & Assistants	X	X		X
Trainers	X		X	X
Tyke (aka Initiation) Helpers	X		X	X

* - Tyke and Novice Coaches and Assistant Coaches may have Initiation certification instead of Level One Hockey Coach Certification
 N.C.C.P. – National Coaches Certification Program

13. Ineligible Player Protest For Players From the Players Pool

Only the Team Manager can protest an ineligible player. The protest must be player(s) specific and submitted in writing within one hour of the completion of the game, to Little Native Hockey League Executive or an Arena Captain. Protest fees are no longer required. See rules 7 & 8 for release or residency option players.

Any team manager failing to provide proof of eligibility within a reasonable time frame will result in loss of game and player(s) will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament. **The Little Native Hockey League Executive Committee will ensure all eligibility rules are adhered to at every game of the Tournament.**

14. Division Designation

Only division with body contact is the Midget Competitive Division. All other divisions will be NO body contact. All Divisions Ontario Wide Rule for all House League & House League Select Teams and Tournaments. The Little Native Hockey League Tournament was originally created & designed for House League Teams.

Managers may register their team for either the “Competitive Division” or the “Recreation-Division”. Both competitive and recreation divisions will have A-B-C & D Finals or maybe more, depending on the number of teams per division.

Players are not permitted to play on more than one team during the tournament.

PLAYERS' DIVISION IS DETERMINED BY AGE, AS OF DECEMBER 31st OF CURRENT YEAR

Tyke 5 & 6

Novice	7 & 8
Atom	9 & 10
Peewee	11 & 12
Bantam	13 & 14
Midget	15, 16 & 17

15. Girls Divisions

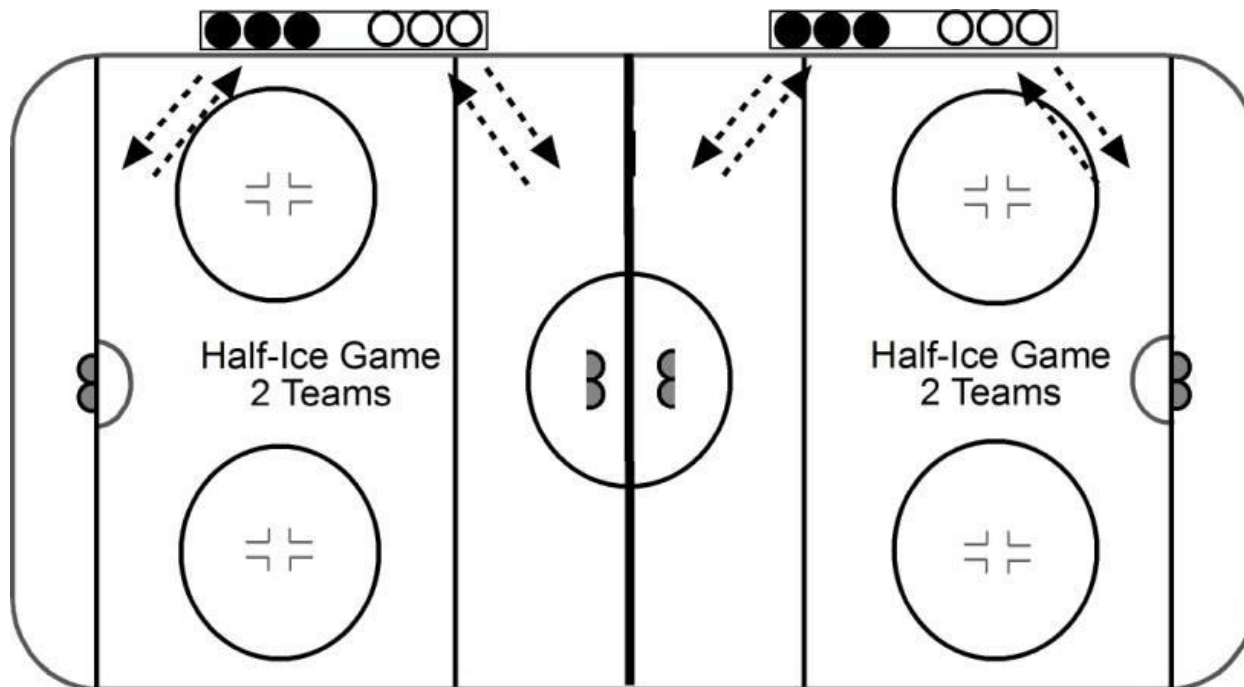
- a) Girls are permitted to play in all Boys Divisions
- b) Boys are NOT permitted to play in any Girls' Division.
- c) Girls have the option to play in their respective division.

16. Moving up a Division: Most players, for safety reasons, are expected to play within their designated age group. If a player wants to move up a division, he/she MUST provide written consent/approval from their parent/guardian to the Manager of the LNHL team prior to the tournament and is subject to the LNHL Executive Committee approval. This includes the request for 3 and 4 year-old players wanting to join the Tyke Division.

17. Tyke Division - Half Ice/Cross Ice

- a) Maximum numbers of players are 17 skaters and 2 goalies, Little NHL recommendation is TEN skaters and a goalie.
- b) Teams will play 5 on 5 and a goalie in full gear;
- c) Each team will be guaranteed 3 ice time slots;
- d) 2 half ice sessions will be played during designated ice session with sound buzzer to identify start of game (24 minute = 1 game) teams will rotate and play another team;
- e) Buzzer or whistle will sound every 3 minutes for line changes, no off-side, no penalties, no score sheet;
- f) Blue Pucks will be mandatory for all tyke sessions;
- g) Teams will share benches and be assigned a designated door. Teams must respect the other players on the bench and on the other half of the ice and not interfere;
- h) One designated coach, or certified helper, per team will be required to be on the ice (mandatory);
- i) All on ice coaches/helpers must wear proper helmets;
- j) All coaches must have respect in sport and gender equity training;
- k) At end of 1 game all players will shake hands before switching to their next game.

2-Games - Two half-ice games run simultaneously.



***Teams would share player benches and use one door each.

Note: Boards will divide the rink in this set-up to keep pucks in their respective playing areas and reduce the chance of errant shots.

18. All Divisions (excluding Tyke) - Game Time frames

- All divisions Novice to Midget and Girls divisions will have three 10 minute STOP time periods, including Championship games.
- If any game has a goal differential of five or more goals, then the game will switch to STRAIGHT time.

19. Sudden Victory Overtime: All games in all Divisions that end in a tie after three periods will go into Sudden Victory Overtime as follows:

- Novice to Midget 3 on 3 players for Five Minutes at Stop time. Still Tied 3 Player shoot out. Still Tied Sudden Victory shoot out. NO PLAYER CAN SHOOT TWICE UNLESS ONE TEAM IS GONE THROUGH LINE UP AND THE OTHER TEAM IS ALLOWED TO REPEAT PLAYERS.
- The goalie is not permitted to go beyond the center ice line and can only be pulled for a delayed penalty.
- If a penalty is called, the opposing team will add one player. Once the penalty time expires, the penalized player may join the play until the next whistle. At that stoppage in play, both teams must remove their additional players and resume play according to the amount of players eligible at that point during the overtime.

20. Rules of Play

- Penalties will be called in accordance with the Hockey Canada Official Rule Book (HCORB). All other sections of the Hockey Canada Official Rule Book ("HCORB") rules DO NOT apply to the Little Native Hockey League Tournament, with the exception below:
- If any player incurs a major penalty for fighting or another major infraction which carries an automatic match penalty, the player will be disqualified from the tournament. Furthermore, the Executive Committee will review these types of penalties to determine if further disciplinary action is required.
- All teams must be ready to play 30 minutes before their scheduled game.
- In the event that two teams have the same color jerseys, the Home Team will be responsible for changing their sweaters.
- One 30 second time out will be allowed in the Championship games only.
- No other rules from any other hockey association apply to this tournament, except for rules stated above.