



2024-25 GTHL PLAYOFFS

1. PLAYOFF SCHEDULING

Home Arenas are not guaranteed for playoff games.

2. PLAYOFF ICE AVAILABILITY

Not all regular arenas will be available to the GTHL throughout the playoffs and therefore alternate locations will be used when necessary.

3. ALTERING LENGTH OF SERIES

If for any reason the GTHL is required to alter the length of a series (shorten or lengthen), the GTHL office will notify the General Manager of each team involved prior to the commencement of the series.

4. OVER-TIME – Under-14 ‘AAA’ to Under-18 ‘AAA’

These age groups will play over-time if tied after regulation after any of their games.

Overtime will be sudden-victory and will be five (5) minutes in length. The teams shall play with three skaters (3) and goalie to start over-time. If a penalty is called during over-time, then the team on the power-play will play with four skaters. If a penalty is called during over-time and a two-man advantage results, then the team on the power-play will play with five skaters. In the event that a power-play remains unexpired at the end of regulation, that power-play will continue to start the over-time period. Once a stoppage occurs after a penalty's completion that does not have a penalty requiring a player differential, the teams shall revert to 3 on 3, or 4 on 3 player strength as appropriate.

If the teams are tied at the end of the over-time period, then a three (3) player shoot-out shall occur. The teams shall alternate shooters with the visiting team shooting first followed by the home team. The team with the most goals after three rounds will be credited with the victory. If tied after three rounds, then sudden death rounds shall take place until a winner is declared. Players will only be permitted to take a second shot when all skaters have been used in a shoot-out. Once one team repeats a shooter then their opponent can repeat a shooter. Players with unexpired penalties can take part in the shoot-out unless they are serving a ten-minute misconduct.

5. GTHL RULE 11.4 – OVERTIME IN PLAYOFFS

(a) Overtime may take place in playoff games at the discretion of the President or the Chief Operating Officer. Only a maximum of two 10-minute, stop-time overtime periods can be played unless otherwise extended or authorized by the Board.

(b) Where overtime is necessary and is advised by the League Office, each overtime period will be a 10-minute, stop-time sudden-victory period. Teams will not change ends before the first period of overtime but will change ends after each overtime period.

(c) Despite 11.4(a) and 11.4(b) above, the League Office shall, for scheduling purposes, have the discretion to amend the overtime provisions, provided that in doing so the League Office shall notify both Teams of the applicable overtime rules prior to the commencement of each game.

6. TEAMS OUT OF PLAYOFFS

Teams that fail to qualify for the playoffs or those eliminated from the same shall be considered for tournament approval provided they follow regular tournament application procedures.

7. **GTHL Rule 12.8 – EXEMPTION REQUEST DURING POST-SEASON**

(h) A Team may request schedule exemptions for a maximum of two days during the last two weeks of the Season and the League playoffs for recognized religious holidays as defined by the interfaith calendar (www.interfaithcalendar.org). A request will be granted only if it is made 5 weeks prior to the date for which an exemption is being sought.

8. **PROTESTS IN PLAYOFFS ONLY**

For a protest to be considered by the League during the playoffs, the protest **MUST** BE HANDLED **EXACTLY** AS FOLLOWS, otherwise it shall be ruled out of order:

- a) Protesting Club's "General Manager or President "must notify the GTHL Office of the protest by PHONE NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON OF THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY FOLLOWING THE GAME. It should be noted the office hours are:

Monday-Friday	9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday, Sunday & Statutory holiday	CLOSED

- b) Protesting Clubs **must** bring the written protest and **protest fee** to the GTHL Office **BEFORE 5:00PM THE DAY FOLLOWING THE GAME BEING PROTESTED** (except Saturdays and Sundays - this deadline is the following Monday at 5:00PM) The Protest must state rule numbers and evidence and include a copy of the game sheet. Such documentation must be under the signature of one of the organization's signing officer(s). A copy of all relevant material **must** be e-mailed to the President, General Manager, Secretary, or any other Executive Officer of the of the opposing Club.
- c) The opposing team will have 24 hours from the deadline of the protest to file a defence.
- d) Please refer to GTHL Article 15 for further clarifications on the proper filing of protests.
- e) Emergency hearings when required will be held at a time, location and date set by the GTHL and which must be adhered to due to time constraints.

9. **GENERAL MANAGER PLAYOFF NOTIFICATION**

- (a) The GTHL Games Centre will be the sole and primary notification of the playoff schedule.
- (b) Club Executives will be contacted by e-mail with possible overtime formats in advance of a clinching/deciding game being played. Overtime formats will be listed in the Games Centre under Schedule News.
- (c) Scenarios involving playoff games that are listed in the schedule as a TBA are clarified in the Games Centre under Schedule News.

10. **TROPHY PRESENTATIONS**

Any GTHL Team Official who refuses to allow their **team to remain on the ice** for a League trophy presentation or any other presentation shall be suspended for any post playoff activity and they will not have their registration card accepted for the following season.