



2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival

Official Rules & Regulations



The E.I.S.R.A. have established these rules and regulations for the First Nations Minor Hockey Festival. This event is organized in the spirit of sportsmanship, fair play, and the gathering of nations through sport. Good luck to all teams.

1. The festival will be played in accordance with Hockey Quebec Rules as well as additional rules established by the organizing committee.

2. All coaches and/or managers must report to the registration office at the Centre Slush Puppie in advance of their first game to complete all necessary registration forms and finalize payments.

3. The roster presented on the score sheet of the team's first game will be the official line-up for the entire event.

The organizing committee will also accept the pre-registration form. The organizing committee will not allow any roster additions thereafter. It is the coach and/or manager's responsibility to ensure, by their signature, that all players are listed on the first official line-up.

4. Players must play at least one of the regular (round-robin) games of their team to be eligible to play in the remainder of the festival. However, if the 3rd game should be a qualifying game, it will count as a regular game.

5. Players still under contract (carded) with a federated team will not be eligible to play if their team is still playing their current season, even if no games are scheduled the weekend of the festival.

6. Determining which category to participate in

Where a community that has a population of over one thousand (1,000), it must register their first (or only) team in the Competitive Category, except if there are no competitive calibre players for that community. The community must request to the committee and receive approval. Rosters will be verified to ensure that there is no competitive player(s). Communities with a population of under 1000 are free to determine the appropriate category in which to participate in.

**2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival
Official Rules & Regulations**

7. Players can only play for one team and in one category. There are no affiliate players allowed in this festival.

When a violation of this rules occurs, the player will automatically be suspended for one game from his/her regular team. Any team caught using an ineligible player shall be penalized by forfeiture of the results attained in the game with the ineligible player (automatic loss, no fair play point), and the coach will be suspended for one game. Further disciplinary action by the organizing committee may be taken based on the circumstances presented.

8. A player can play in a higher category for their respective community but must provide a signed parental letter of consent form and approval from the local association or community. However, in the event the community does not have a team in the player's category, the player may qualify under the import rule (Rule 18) and play for another community.

9. Length of Games and Mercy Rule

3-minute warm-up prior to start of game.

1st period 15 minutes running time

2nd period 15 minutes running time

3rd period 10-minute period (last 5 minutes stop time)

Once a difference of 5 goals occurs, the remainder of the game is to be played with running time. If the score differential narrows to less than 5 goals, the clock remains in running mode for the remainder of the game regardless.

When the score reaches a difference of 7 goals, the game is called after the completion of two (2) periods. When the score reaches this point prior to the end of the 2nd period, the score will no longer be presented or updated on the scoreboard.

10. END OF REGULATION TIME IN PRELIMINARY ROUND

In all regular games, should a tie persist after 3 periods, a shootout will take place with three (3) players from each team shooting. If a tie remains after the initial three (3) shooters per team, then the shootout will continue with one (1) shooter per team alternating until a winner is declared. No player may shoot twice until all players have a turn.

Please note: The home team (on the schedule) will decide whether to shoot first or not.

**2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival
Official Rules & Regulations**

11. END OF REGULATION TIME IN ELIMINATION ROUND (Quarters, Semis & Finals).

There will be no shootouts in all elimination games. All overtime periods will be played in sudden-death format.

The first overtime period will be played 4 skaters and a goalie aside for 5 minutes in stop-time. All other overtime periods shall be played with three (3) skaters and a goalie where there will be 20 minutes put on the clock until a winner is declared.

12. Timeouts

One (1) time-out of thirty (30) seconds will be permitted for each team per game.

13. FESTIVAL FORMAT & GURANTEED GAMES

Each team is guaranteed a minimum of three (3) games.

14. STANDINGS

Points are awarded as such:

Regulation win,	3 points
Overtime win,	2 points
Overtime loss,	1 point
Regulation loss,	0 points
Fair Play,	1 point

15. FAIR PLAY

Fair play points shall be awarded for teams that do not exceed the penalty limit per game.

U11	5 minor penalties
U13	6 minor penalties
U15	7 minor penalties
U18	8 minor penalties

16. BREAKING TIES IN THE STANDINGS

In case of a tie, the following procedures will be applied:

2-way tie

- a) The team that won against each other (head-to-head).
- b) The team with the most wins.
- c) The team with the higher plus-minus rating (+/-).
- d) The team with the most goals-for in festival.
- e) The team that scored their first goal the fastest in the festival.
- f) Coin toss

3-way tie

- a) The greater differential in plus/minus rating (goals for minus goals against).
- b) The teams with the most goals-for.
- c) The team that scored their first goal the fastest in the festival.
- d) Coin toss

17. IMPORT RULE

- a) Only communities with a population of less than one thousand (1,000) are allowed a maximum of two (2) import players on their official line-up. (Imports shall be indigenous players only)
- b) Any player that has resided in a community at least twelve (12) consecutive months is not considered an import.
- c) A player may choose to play for his/her home community. A home community is defined as the indigenous community where the family has resided most recently before relocation (school, work etc.) occurred. Typically, this is where the members of the family have band membership.
- d) Residency will be the main determining factor for eligibility. Where the biological parents do not reside together, the community where the player resides and typically attends school will be considered the residence.

When the player is not residing or attending school in an indigenous community, the players' residence will be that of the parent with whom they reside.

2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival Official Rules & Regulations

e) When residency cannot be determined by the above clauses, a written request to determine where a player should play in the festival shall be tabled no later than one week before the start of the event.

It is recommended that in the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play, all your local association players are given the opportunity to participate before imports are granted positions on teams. The festival host wishes to put the emphasis on participation and will make every effort to ensure every child has an opportunity to play.

18. PENALTIES

Minor:

Minor penalties occurring in running time shall be of three (3) minutes.

Minor penalties occurring in stop-time shall be two (2) minutes.

Any player receiving three (3) minor penalties in a game will be automatically ejected for the remainder of the game. Any double minor penalty shall be considered as two penalties.

Major:

Major penalties occurring in running time shall be of seven (7) minutes.

Major penalties occurring in stop-time shall be five (5) minutes.

Major penalties come with an automatic game misconduct and disqualification, plus one game suspension for the player. A teammate must serve the penalty.

Major penalties will automatically be reviewed by the disciplinary committee.

Major penalties automatically result in the loss of the fair play point for their team.

19. CONDUCT

Any player being penalized for fighting or attempting to injure will be automatically expelled from the festival. Further discipline may be issued. Any player and/or coach found to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be expelled from the festival, as both a participant and spectator. Further discipline may be issued.

2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival Official Rules & Regulations

20. SUSPENSIONS AND INELIGIBILITY

The Eeyou Istchee Sports & Recreation Association in conjunction with the festival committee will also respect and support all suspensions and decisions taken by all local Cree and other native sports associations. A list of those affected players will be maintained by the Committee. Suspended players will not be allowed to participate in this event. If any team is found using suspended players (local and imports) they will automatically lose their games, lose their inscription fee, and be expelled from the festival.

21. PROTEST

No protest shall be allowed during the festival.

22. BODY CONTACT

Body contact will NOT be permitted in ALL CATEGORIES at this festival.

23. ELITE PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS

- a) All Elite players of a team participating at provincial championships, or their season is still ongoing will not be permitted to play at the festival, as mentioned in rule #5. Should their team get eliminated during the festival, they may return and play for their respective community.
- b) All Elite players must play in the competitive category and for their respective community unless their community does not have a team in their category. In this circumstance, the import rule (rule #18) applies.
- c) When eligibility cannot be determined by the above clauses, a written request to determine where a player should play in the festival shall be tabled no later than one week before the start of the event.

24. SOCIAL MEDIA

Any player, coach or team representative caught using social media where they are posting pictures or writing any negative comments towards the organizers, officials, the rules, opponents, and the event will be subject to disciplinary measures that will be handed down by the organizing committee, which could result in suspension. There will be zero tolerance on the negative use of social media.

2024 First Nations Minor Hockey Festival Official Rules & Regulations

Organizing Committee Guidelines

The organizing committee shall not be responsible for any loss and/or damages to the participants' equipment or belongings.

Each player and/or coach must show their player's pass upon entering the arena. Failure to show your entry pass will result in paying the full regular admission rate. Teams will be issued players passes in accordance with their official roster.

The organizing committee reserves the right to expel any person and/or team not respecting these rules and/or conducting themselves disrespectfully, unlawfully, and/or deemed as unsafe towards any committee member, staff, participant, referee and/or the public.

Any additional decisions taken collectively by the festival organizing committee shall be final.

To all our Loyal Fans and Participants:

We are here to set an example for the youth that participate in this event. Therefore, it is imperative that all coaches, managers, spectators, parents, recreation directors and minor sports coordinators set a good example of sportsmanship and fair play. Everyone is asked to act in a professional and courteous manner.

First Nations Minor Hockey Festival Organizers/Committee.

***** E.I.S.R.A Sanctioned Event *****

www.eisra.ca

Good luck to all teams!!