

Ice Hockey

Districts are encouraged to follow the technical information and guidelines as noted below. When changes are necessary at the District level, participants must be made aware of the pathway to participate in OSGA qualifying ice hockey tournaments. These tournaments would qualify the top 5 teams within each age group to play at the Ontario 55+ winter games. The rules as outlined below will be followed at all OSGA hockey events.

A) TEAM COMPOSITION

DIVISIONS	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
MENS FIVE AGE DIVISIONS 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+	One Coach & One Manager or Trainer = 2 team staff participants Goalies – Two (2) team participants Maximum of fifteen (15) skating team members
	Totaling 19 team participants
WOMENS THREE AGE DIVISIONS 55+, 60+ & new 65+	One Coach & One Manager or Trainer = 2 team staff participants Goalies – Two (2) team participants Maximum of fifteen (15) skating team members
	Totaling 19 team participants
AGE EXCEPTIONS	The goaltender is the only position on the team where the player's age eligibility requirement can be altered. Goaltenders may be five (5) years younger than the age group in which they may play but must be a minimum of 55 years of age in the year of the competition.

B) ELIGIBILITY

EVENT	REQUIREMENTS
District Games	Any person 55+ living within their District boundaries who are currently a registered OSGA member. If not, enough players live within a District to create a team, then up to 3 players plus a goalie from a bordering District may be used. Any players from outside the District must receive permission from both of the District Co-Ordinator's as well as receive approval from the OSGA's Player Eligibility Committee to participate. All players must meet the age requirement for their age groupings in the year of the competition. In Districts with small populations if the need for more than the four players is required then the team must receive approval from the OSGA's Player Eligibility Committee

<p>OSGA 55+ Provincial Pre-qualifying Tournament, November Odd Years, Ontario Senior 55+ Winter Games, February Even Years</p>	<p>Teams that represent their District for their age group will be able to participate in a pre-qualifying tournament convened by the OSGA. 5 top teams per age group qualify for Provincial 55+ Senior Winter Games.</p> <p>The top five (5) teams from each age group from the qualifying tournament will win the right to participate in the Ontario 55+ Seniors Winter games.</p> <p>The top two teams from the Winter games in each age group will be the Gold & silver award winners who will represent Ontario at the next Canada 55+ Senior Games</p> <p>Currently the Men's 75+ & Women's 65+ will not participate in the Winter Games but will have a qualifying tournament with the top two teams from the Men's 75+ division winning the right to represent Ontario at the Canada 55+ Senior Games.</p> <p>The top two teams from the Women's 65+ Division will be the OSGA's gold and silver award winners and if the CSGA adds the 65+ Women's age division to its games then they would represent Ontario.</p> <p>Due to a reduction in the number of participants in the Men's 75+ and Women's 65+ age divisions the teams may draw on players from within their REGION to play on their teams but still must identify all players from outside of their District to the OSGA's player eligibility committee</p>
<p>Remember!</p>	<p>Any issues regarding player/goalie eligibility please submit to OSGA eligibility committee.</p> <p>The NEW ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ICE HOCKEY WILL BE IN FORCE AS OF AUGUST 1ST/2023.</p>

NOTE: Any teams that are not present at the scheduled commencement of play and throughout the competition are in default and are automatically disqualified from the competition. If there are extenuating circumstances, exceptions to this may be granted by the event convenor.

Competitors are obligated to complete the event regardless of their record in the competition. If a team defaults part way through the competition, results from that team will be removed from the standings.

A) PROVINCIAL GAMES TOURNAMENT SET-UP

1. Each age division will be comprised of a five (5) team grouping with a round robin format resulting in all teams playing 4 games over the two days.
2. All games will consist of a minimum of two (2), fifteen (15) minute stop time periods. The ice will be flooded after each game. Will strive to ensure that no teams play back-to-back games and will attempt to provide at least 2 hours between games.
3. At Ontario 55+ Winter Games team placement will be determined by the team with the most points determined as the winner.
4. Game points – two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for an overtime loss.

5. AWARD WINNERS will be determined by points from the round robin results with the top team winning gold, second place silver and the 3rd place bronze.

B) DETERMINING FINAL STANDING

1. TEAM WITH MOST POINTS AFTER THE ROUND ROBIN SERIES ARE DECLARED GOLD MEDALISTS. If teams are tied in points after the completion of round robin play the tie will be broken in the follow order:
 - a. Winner of the round robin game played between the tied teams.
 - b. Team with the fewest goals against.
 - c. Least penalized team as in the total number of penalty minutes in the round robin games.
 - d. Team with highest total from using their goals for minus their goals against .

C) AWARDS

Gold, silver and bronze (19 maximum for each team member per age division)
Total = 19 x 6 divisions = 114 gold, 114 silver and 114 bronze medals .

D) EVENT REQUIREMENTS

Equipment

1. Teams should have 2 different coloured sets of sweaters if possible.
2. All players must wear a Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved helmet with the chin strap properly fastened. All players MUST wear a CSA face protector at least a half face mask/visor (recommend full face masks/visors) NO EXCEPTIONS, NO FACE MASK/VISORS PLAYER(S) CANNOT PLAY
3. Goaltenders shall be required to wear CSA approved helmet with an approved facial protector that is securely attached and not modified or altered in any way.
4. All players are required to keep their helmets on, when on the ice, on the bench, or in the penalty box.
5. Non-compliance of equipment regulations will result in a minor penalty being assessed.
6. Further recommended equipment includes:
 - a. Mouth guards (in mouth are recommended)
 - b. Neck guards
 - c. Other necessary CSA approved protective equipment.

Facilities

1. At minimum, two regulation size arenas, ideally three regulation size arenas.
2. The facilities should be wheelchair accessible.

E) OFFICIALS

For OSGA events, the officials listed below are suggested. Participation numbers and availability of volunteers may result in fewer officials being required. Districts are encouraged to try and have the necessary officials to run the event successfully.

The OSGA requires, at minimum, the following major officials for the Ontario 55+ Winter Games:

- One event convenor
- Two referees
- One scorekeeper
- One timer
- Medical personnel (EMS/St. John Ambulance, etc.)
- Disciplinary committee / Tournament Convenor/OSGA rep

For Ontario 55+ Games the host committee will ensure that all major officials have the required qualifications as specified by the OSGA. The host committee is also responsible for any other officials required to run this event.

** A disciplinary committee will be used at the Ontario 55+ Games level and consist of 3 members. Generally, this will include the OSGA President, OSGA Rules Chair, GOC event convenor (alternates as appointed)*

F) RULES SUMMARY & HIGHLIGHTS

Canadian Adult Recreational Hockey Association (CARHA) rules will apply, with exceptions as identified by the OSGA and/or the host committee at the Ontario 55+ Games.

1. Players may only play for one team in the same tournament.
2. All players must meet the District eligibility requirements to play. If a team is found to be using an ineligible player, then team will forfeit the game(s) that the ineligible player participated in.
3. A player must play in at least one round robin game to be eligible for a medal award.
4. Except for the 55+ age category, all goaltenders may be five years younger than the age at which they might normally play. All team members including management, goaltenders and players must be registered with the OSGA which requires the minimum age to be 55.
5. Teams may replace a goaltender on their roster only in the event of injury or sickness. The event convenor must approve goaltender replacements.

6. The home team will wear light-coloured jerseys or colours that do not conflict with the visiting teams coloured jerseys. Recommended that all teams bring two different coloured sets of sweaters to avoid colour conflicts.
7. All games will consist of a minimum of two, fifteen-minute stop time periods.
8. All games must be played to a conclusion. If teams are tied at the end of regulation time, a five minute stop time, sudden victory period will be played with four on four skaters (4 v.4):
 - a. If still tied, then a 3-person shootout will follow. If still tied, then a sudden death shootout will occur until a winner is declared. (e.g., on the fourth shot one shooter scores and one does not, the scoring team wins the game.) No player may take a second shot until all other players on their team have taken a first shot. *Regardless of how many goals are scored in the shootout, the final score will increase by one goal to break the tie score.*
 - b. A player is only allowed to score THREE GOALS IN REGULATION TIME. If the player scores a fourth goal, it will be disallowed, and faceoff will take place at a faceoff spot in the neutral zone. A player who scored three goals in regulation is allowed to score in overtime or a shootout.
9. If a team is winning by a goal differential of 5 or more goals in the last 5 minutes of the game, time will change to straight time from stop time. If further goals scored, time will stay at straight time for the remainder of the game.
10. Any player assessed with three minor penalties in a single game will be ejected for the remainder of the game. Double minors count as two penalties.
11. Body checking is NOT permitted and will result in a minor or major penalty depending upon the severity of the incident.
12. No fighting is permitted. Any player assessed as a major for fighting will be ineligible to play for the remainder of the tournament.
13. No slap shots will be permitted. (Interpreted as a back swing above the knees.)
 - a. A player who uses a slap shot during the game shall be assessed a minor penalty. If an injury occurs as a result of a slap shot, a major penalty shall be assessed.
 - b. A player who uses the action of a fake slap shot for the purpose of intimidating an opposing player and/or opposing goaltender shall be assessed a minor penalty.
14. Major penalties will result in a minimum suspension of one game. Fighting majors and majors for deliberate attempt to injure will result in expulsion from the tournament.
15. Referees are to report all game misconducts, majors and match penalties to the event convenor at the conclusion of each game. Named player(s), coach(es)/manager(s) shall be suspended from all succeeding games until the case is reviewed and dealt with by the event convenor or disciplinary committee depending on the event type.
16. Should any member of a team challenge the ruling of an official or display unsportsmanlike conduct, they must be assessed as a minor for the unsportsmanlike conduct, followed by a misconduct or game misconduct if they persist.

- a. A misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player or team official who:
 - i. Uses obscene, profane, or abusive language or gestures to any persons.
 - ii. Persists in disputing or shows disrespect for the ruling of any official.
- b. When a team official has been assessed a game misconduct penalty under this rule, the referee shall report the individual and full details to the disciplinary committee who upon review may assess further penalties (e.g., suspensions).
- 17. Any player or team official who engages in verbal taunts, insults, or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, language, etc.) shall be assessed a gross misconduct penalty, which will result in being suspended from the tournament.