

2026 OSHL Blue Jackets Cup Tournament Rules

The OSHL Varsity Division games and Junior Varsity Division games will be conducted under USA Hockey rules.

All players must have participated in their respective regular season division games to be eligible for the same respective tournament division games.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

OSHL Varsity Division (February 13-16, 2026)

Any player that appears on the official score sheet for an OSHL Blue Jackets Cup Junior Varsity Tournament game is *INELIGIBLE* to play in the OSHL Blue Jackets Cup Varsity Tournament. Hence, a player can only play in either the Junior Varsity Tournament (if they meet the eligibility for that tournament) or the Varsity Tournament --- *not both*.

*The only exception to this rule would involve goalies or JV players filling in for sick or injured Varsity players (excludes suspended Varsity Players). Example: If you had to use a backup Varsity goalie in the Junior Varsity Tournament, that goalie would be eligible for the Varsity Tournament. You must contact OSHL Representation (see below) **before the start of any Varsity game** to notify them if you are using any eligible substitute JV players **and are expected to give ample time for such decisions to be weighed, evaluated, and approved**. No more than 2 JV players will be permitted per varsity team and must be approved in advance from OSHL Representation.*

OSHL Junior Varsity Division (February 27- March 1, 2026)

Any player that has played in 8 or more OSHL Varsity games is *INELIGIBLE* to play in the OSHL Junior Varsity Blue Jackets Cup Tournament

*One exception to the JV Division rules involves goalies. We know that the number of goalies in some programs is small. A Junior Varsity team that has no goalies available because of this problem may utilize a varsity goalie that is the back-up goalie for the varsity team. If there are multiple goalies that are considered back-ups, the one that is considered lowest in line is the one that must be used. The honor system is in effect. You must contact OSHL Representation (see below) **before the start of any JV game** to notify them if you are using a varsity backup goalie.*

Game Times/ Ice Cuts

Junior Varsity games will consist of three 15-minute periods.

No ice cuts in Junior Varsity games

Varsity games will consist of three 17-minute periods.

Ice cut between the 2nd and 3rd periods in Varsity games

The higher seeded team will be the home team for each game.

The Home team will be responsible for supplying a scorekeeper and the Visitor team will be responsible for supplying a timekeeper. This approach makes certain the scorer's box is balanced and fair. Each team will need to provide one person for their respective penalty box.

Tie games

Teams will need to provide a shoot-out order prior to the start of every game. These can be listed on their score sheet or a separate list may be given to the scorekeeper. Any team that does not provide a list will go in the order their players appear on the score sheet (other than goalies) --- no exceptions. The sheet must list at least 5 shooters, but a larger number is preferred and protects you the better. Once the list is exhausted, the



next shooter(s) will come from the score sheet from top to bottom of listed players not counting those that have already shot and goalies.

OSHL Junior Varsity

Non-Championship Games

There will be no overtime period.

Teams will immediately go to the standard 3-man shootout procedures.

Please see the standard 3-man shootout procedures below

Championship Games

There will be one 5-minute sudden death overtime period with the teams playing five-on-five

If still tied at that time, the teams will follow the standard 3-man shootout procedures

Please see the standard 3-man shootout procedures below

OSHL Varsity

Non-Championship Games

There will be one 5-minute sudden death overtime period with teams playing five-on-five

If still tied at that time, then the teams will follow the standard 3-man shootout procedures

Please see the standard 3-man shootout procedures below

Championship Games

The championship games will continue to be played at 5-on-5 sudden death for up to three 5 minute overtime periods

If still tied at that time, the teams will follow the standard 3-man shootout procedure

Please see the standard 3-man shootout procedures below

3-Man Shootout Procedures

The home team will decide which team will shoot first. Any player in the penalty box at the end of the actual game playing time (regulation or overtime) will not be allowed to participate in the shoot-out. If still tied after three players have shot, then a one-player sudden death shootout will commence. All skaters, with the exception of those in the penalty box, are required to participate in the shootout before any player can shoot for a second time. The second time through the list of players must be in the same order as the first time through the list.

The home team will be noted on the game sheet and will wear white jerseys. Teams are required to bring two (2) sets of jerseys --- one light and one dark. In the event of conflicting colors, the visitor team will be required to change jersey colors or wear overlays with numbers.

Time Outs

1 (one) time out of 1 minute will be allowed for each team in all games.

End of Game

For all games, The Winning Team must send a text of final score and picture of the final score sheet to:

Scriven King (OSHL Vice President): oshlscoresheets@gmail.com – (937) 217-7262

JJ Stallworth (to update online bracket): pha.prowlersscheduler@gmail.com – (614) 769-4617



At the conclusion of all Blue Jackets Cup games, OSHL Vice President (Scriven King) will forward information to: **Joe Renza (JRenza@BlueJackets.com/ C: 914-462-8990)** or **Jeremy Rogers (JRogers@thechiller.com/ C: 614-519-6056)**. This will help keep boards updated at the rinks.

All questions concerning the OSHL Tournaments should be directed to OSHL Commissioners:

Michael Chakerian (oshlpresident@gmail.com) – OSHL President

Scriven King (oshlscoresheets@gmail.com) – OSHL Vice President

Any decisions made by the Commissioners will be final.

FAQ: Additional Information – Should a player in penalty box participate in a shootout?

This is a USA Hockey rule. The answer is 'NO' – anyone in the penalty box cannot participate in the shootout, even if a player was sitting for someone else. For example, let's say there is a 2/10 penalty called on a player with 1 minute to go in overtime. X player was the player committing the penalty. X player would sit the 10 min and Y player sits the 2 minutes. Assuming no one scores in the last minute and the score is still tied and the game moves to a shootout, neither X nor Y player would be able to participate in the shootout as neither penalty had ended.