

2026 PAHL PLAYOFFS HOST GUIDE



Check-In

- No check-in table is needed this season.
 - The site coordinator simply needs to make the iPad available to the teams upon arrival.
 - Due to teams advancing to additional playoff games within the same day or on the next day, the GameSheet schedule cannot be entered in advance for most playoff games. Therefore, the game must be loaded on to the iPad when the teams arrive for the game (about 90 minutes prior or less).
- Teams are not making direct payment to the hosts this season, so no checks need to be collected.
 - If a team attempts to make a payment, please decline the check.
 - Refer all questions regarding payment to the association's treasurer and the PAHL League Office.

Game Personnel

- The host is to arrange for each of the following positions to be filled for each game:
 - Referees, Medic, Official Scorer, Clock Operator
- Optionally, the host can appoint a qualified individual to the following positions for each game:
 - PA Announcer, Arena DJ, Security Guard(s)
- Each participating team is asked to provide a responsible adult as its Penalty Box Attendant.
- We owe it to our playoff teams to provide the best officials possible on each game, so please direct your Assignor of Officials to uphold this expectation.
 - Please refer to Section 6.1 of the PAHL Game Manual for specific qualifications for On-Ice Officials.
- Off-Ice Officials and additional must adhere to the requirements and limitations for those positions.
 - Please refer to Section 6 of the PAHL Game Manual these items.
 - Specifically, all game personnel must remain impartial and undistruptive throughout the game; nothing about the game operations should feel like any team has home-ice advantage.
- The host is responsible for payment to all personnel, as applicable.

Game Schedule

- Please maintain the game schedule established by the League Office.
 - Ensure the rink staff knows not curfew any playoff game, including the need for OT/shootouts.
 - Adjustments/rearrangements should not be made to start times at the request of any team.
- A game can start early if the ice becomes available due to the previous game ending early.
 - Both the referees and head coaches must agree to the earlier start.
 - All game personnel must be present for the earlier start time.
 - Refer to Section 8.1.B of the PAHL Game Manual.
- If a previous game runs long (OT/SO), the next game will start immediately upon the ice being resurfaced.
 - The start of a game should not be otherwise delayed for any reason (such as players/coaches coming from another game); contact the PAHL League Office if a delay is encountered.

Event Supplies

- The host is to provide the iPad needed to score each game in GameSheet.
 - Please ensure the iPads are sufficiently charged before and between uses.
- Have a copy (usually electronic) of the USA Hockey rulebook and PAHL Game Manual readily accessible.
 - All playing rules are accessible on the PAHL website at www.pahockey.com/rules
- The host association is asked to provide a continuous supply of pucks suitable for game play.
 - Game pucks should be generally free of logos (all black) and have minimal wear/usage.
 - It is recommended that game pucks be kept in a container of ice/snow or placed on a cold surface.
- The hosts no longer need to distribute banners and medals to any team at playoff games.
 - The league will deliver championship hats to the host sites for the 10U playoffs.
 - Banners for all champions (season and playoffs) will be distributed by the league to the winning teams.

Score Reporting

- The host entity will provide the scorekeeper to enter the scoring on the iPad during the game.
 - The host entity must ensure that the GameSheet data is uploaded after the conclusion of each game. An internet connection is needed, and the upload is expected to occur within 20 minutes after the game.
 - If the game still appears on the “Active Games” list on the main menu in GameSheet after the game, click on the blue cloud icon next to the game to initiate the upload.
 - Final scores do not need to be reported to the PAHL League Office in any other manner.
- The schedule/brackets on the PAHL website will be updated routinely throughout each day of playoff games.
 - Divisional pages for playoff results can be found at www.pahockey.com/playoffs2026

PAHL Contacts

- PAHL Commissioner: Dave Fryer – 412-715-5531
 - Contact for all general questions, conflicts/disputes, and rules interpretations.
 - Please call (do not text) for emergency/time-sensitive situations.
- Discipline Director: Ron Michalak – 412-310-4570
 - Contact for all questions/interpretations/applications of potential suspensions.
- League President: Glen Scholze – 412-551-3725
 - Backup contact when the other contacts are not immediately accessible.