

Congratulations on making it into the NHSL end of season playoffs!!! We are excited for a great weekend of soccer for all our teams that advanced. Below is a lot of information regarding playoffs, so please read carefully. If your team has moved on to the playoffs and will not be able participate, please let us know asap so that we do not have a team show up to play and not have an opponent.

Teams Advancing

Divisions with 5 teams or less, will have a final. Top two teams in the division will move on to the final. Divisions with 6 teams or more, will have a semi-final. Winners of the semi-final will move on to the final.

Seedings are based off the following point system. Each team will be awarded

- 3 points for a win
- 1 point for a tie
- 0 points for a loss

If at the conclusion of the league season a tie breaker is needed, the following criteria will be utilized:

- A. Head to head (not used if more than two teams are involved in the tie)
- B. Goal difference (i.e. goals scored minus goals allowed - maximum of 4 per game)
- C. Fewest goals allowed
- D. Most goals scored (maximum of 4 per game)
- E. Most Wins
- F. Most shut-outs
- G. Sudden death Penalty Kicks – In the event that both parties are unable to do so, a coin flip will occur

All games will be played at New Hampshire Soccer Complex (NHSC), 326 Buck Street, Pembroke, NH.

Go to www.nhsoccerleague.com and click on playoffs for schedules and rules.

We cannot adjust game schedules for teams that share players or club pass so please respect the times and make sure you are prompt and follow the check in info below. To help alleviate any issues with daylight and overtime that may arise, teams are asked to be ready to play up to 15 minutes early.

Also below, are the playoff rules. Please make sure you have reviewed these as well as league policies on the website so that you are familiar with the procedures and rules pertaining to the event.

League Policies: <https://www.nhsoccerleague.com/operating-rules>

**Both 1st and 2nd place teams will receive awards after the final.
Please come to the check-in tent area to receive your award.**

Playoff Rules

Check in:

Your team will be asked to stop at the tent when your team has arrived. The majority of the games will be checked in on the fields with the field marshals. Pop by the main tent first, or look for the field marshal at your field to check in. Teams must be checked in 30 minutes or more prior to game time. You will need a copy of your roster, coach's cards and player cards. Team's failure to check in on time may result in a forfeited game. Only coaches with their rosters & cards must check in (players not required). Please make sure you have all the documentation you need for club pass players. We will not make any exception to missing passes, roster issues, or anything to do with changes as everything should have been done by now. Same club pass rules apply as during regular season. **You must have a copy of your roster and player cards on the sidelines at all times or game will result in a forfeit.**

Game Length:

U11-U12

Semi Finals – Two 30 minute halves

Finals – Two 30 minute halves

U13-U14

Semi Finals Two 35 minute halves

Finals – Two 35 minute halves

U15 and Above

Semi Finals Two 40 minute halves

Finals - Two 40 minute halves

*** Game length may be changed by the League Director due to darkness. OT rules may be changed to go directly to Kicks from the mark by League Director decision if needed.**

Overtime Rules:

U11-U12 Two 5 minute OT to be played in their entirety > Kicks from the mark

U13-U14 Two 5 minute OT to be played in their entirety > Kicks from the mark

U15 & up Two 10 minute OT to be played in their entirety > Kicks from the mark

- 1. Game tied after regulation play – First OT Period:** There will be a coin toss (visiting team to call) to determine possession of ball and side, substitutions will be permitted. First overtime period will be played in its entirety.
- 2. Second OT Period:** Players immediately switch sides and commence second overtime period. Period will be played in its entirety.
- 3. Game still tied after 2nd overtime:** ALL PLAYERS ARE TO REMAIN ON THE FIELD OF PLAY. NO SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED. One team official from each team will be permitted onto the field of play to assist their team in determining the order of players for kicks from the mark. There will be a coin toss (home team to call) to determine order of kicks from the mark. Winner is determined based on goals from the mark (FIFA Rules apply).

Ball Size:

U11 & U12 – Size 4

U13+ - Size 5

Game balls must be provided by the home team (as listed on the schedule)

Ejections:

Players ejected or coach dismissed from a match will be ejected from the entire playoff tournament and will not be allowed to return

Field Policy:

NO PETS are allowed at any of the tournament facilities. Anyone with pets will be asked to leave the facility

NO SMOKING or ALCOHOL is allowed. This includes the parking lot. Anyone found to be smoking or consuming alcohol will be removed from the tournament facility.

ZERO-TOLERANCY POLICY against referees, players, coaches and other parents. We want all players, coaches, referees and spectators to have a positive experience. Any actions by any individual or individuals that infringe on the Code of Conduct will be addressed immediately by tournament staff. See league policies and procedures for rules.

TRASH PICKUP - Carry in Carry out Facility. Please make sure you clean your bench area before leaving.

Good luck and see you all on the fields!!

In the love of the game,

NHSL Director

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