

## **Official Announcement: The Texas Cup Returns**

We are excited to announce that the Texas Cup High School State Championship is returning and will be held March 20-22 in Mansfield, Texas. This revival of the Texas Cup marks an important moment for 2A and 2B high school hockey across the state, bringing together programs from both the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey League (DFW) and the Interscholastic Hockey League (Houston).

Prior to USA Hockey (USAH) introducing a national high school championship, the Texas Cup served as the premier season-ending event that brought ISHL and AT&T MSHSL teams together to crown the State Champion. When USAH later created a national tournament, the Texas Cup ended and gave way to the TAHA State Tournament. In 2019, TAHA expanded the State Championships to include 2A and 2B divisions, ensuring all Varsity teams had a pathway to compete.

The decision to bring back the Texas Cup comes at a meaningful time. Recent events left these 2A and 2B high school division clubs without the opportunity to compete for a State Championship. As such, the leadership from both leagues recognized the need to reinstate the Texas Cup to both honor the event's history while providing those clubs with an opportunity to crown a statewide champion each season.

### **2026 Texas Cup Qualification Structure**

#### **Silver Division – 8 Teams**

- Top 4 teams from AT&T MSHSL Varsity Silver-Green
- Top 2 teams from AT&T MSHSL Varsity Silver-White
  - Top 2 teams from ISHL

#### **Bronze Division – 4 Teams**

- Top 2 teams from AT&T MSHSL Varsity Bronze
  - Teams 3 and 4 from ISHL

In future seasons, the Texas Cup divisions will be streamlined to four teams to ensure only the top qualifying teams compete, and to provide greater flexibility to host the event at various rinks and cities throughout the state.

More information will be shared soon as planning continues between our two leagues. We look forward to an exciting championship weekend and the continued growth of high school hockey in Texas.

**Keith Andresen – AT&T MSHSL**

**Frank Prestigiovanni – ISHL**