



# TOURNAMENTS

RULES | REGULATIONS | POLICIES & PROCEDURES



# DALLAS STARS TOURNAMENT SERIES

## TIER I INVITATIONAL

**Divisions:** 14U, 15 (Only), 16U & 18U  
**Levels:** TIER I / AAA Teams

The Dallas Stars Tournament Series is governed by the rules of USA Hockey, and it is the responsibility of each player, coach and team manager to be familiar with these rules. In addition, there are specific procedures and policies that apply to the Dallas Stars Tournament Series. Please review and be familiar with these as well.

### PROCEDURES

1. Teams must complete and submit their Official Team Roster using the form/link provided prior to the start of the tournament which includes Team Name, Player First Name, Player Last Name, Player Birth Date, Player Number and Player Position by the requested deadline. All players must have valid/current USAH Registration number. Players can only be rostered on one (1) team and will NOT be allowed to play for multiple teams, regardless of what division the teams are in. Travel/Select Division teams must also submit their USA Hockey 1-T Form - Official Team Roster or Hockey Canada Certified Player Roster using the form/link provided. Canadian teams must submit also submit Travel Permits.

Teams should also have the following documents and/or information available during all tournament games:

- a. USA Hockey 1-T Form - Official Team Roster approved and date stamped by the State Registrar.
  - b. Canadian teams need to provide certified team registration from their governing Canadian body (Hockey Canada certified player roster).
  - c. All coaches must have a current/valid USA Hockey registration confirmation number, be USAH SafeSport certified, and be certified at the level of play that they are coaching and listed on the Official Team Roster. **Only rostered coaches are eligible to be on the players' bench during the games.**
  - d. Teams must submit their final rosters by **THE DEADLINE**. Rosters submitted for Hockey Shift must match the team's Official Team Roster and/or USAH 1-T Form or Hockey Canada Certified Player Roster.
  - e. Travel permits are required and will be verified for **ALL** Canadian teams.
2. All team representatives are responsible for checking the rink front desk for any schedule changes, suspensions and other important information. All schedules, scores and standings will be updated via Hockey Shift ([www.hockeyshift.com](http://www.hockeyshift.com)) throughout the tournament weekend. This online scoring system contains game schedules and up to date placements for finals. **NOTE: Bracket boards will not be posted at the rink and teams will need to monitor Hockey Shift for updates on the Finals.**
  3. Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director, Venue Coordinator, General Manager and/or rink staff on duty will be available at each facility to answer questions regarding scheduling, tournament events, directions and other matters pertinent to the tournament operation. However, as stated, each team is responsible for ensuring pertinent information is communicated to all team members on a daily basis.
  4. The Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director will also be available to answer any questions regarding specific hockey issues. The Tournament Series Director is responsible for all inquiries or disputes regarding application of rules, interpretation of rules, player eligibility, disciplinary action and any other procedural disputes. **The Tournament Series Director will not overturn any dispute concerning rules and / or the judgment applied by on-ice officials. All decisions of the Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director are final.**

### GAME RULES AND REGULATIONS

Specific Dallas Stars Tournament Rules and Regulations are outlined below. If a situation arises that is not covered by these Tournament Rules, then USA Hockey Rules and Regulations apply. All decisions of the Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director are final.

1. **Locker Rooms:** All teams must use assigned locker rooms posted at the front desk; on the rink TV monitors or at other locations throughout the rink. **It is highly recommended that the team lock the door to the locker room while their team is playing.** The Dallas Stars will not be held responsible for any items lost or stolen during the tournament. Locker room keys are available from, and must be returned to, the rink staff at the front desk. Locker rooms must be vacated and cleaned, within thirty minutes from the time a game ends. Keys may be picked up forty-five (45) minutes prior to your game time. Each team needs to ensure that locker room is clean (no remaining trash/tape/food/drink) prior to vacating it. **Team representatives are responsible for all damage done to the locker room or the facility.**
  - a. **Monitoring:** It is the policy of USA Hockey that all teams have at least one responsible adult (head/assistant coach or other approved team personnel) directly monitoring the locker room during all tournament events to ensure that only participants (coaches and players), and other approved team personnel are permitted in the locker room to supervise

the conduct in and around the locker rooms at all times while participants are present and also make sure the locker room is appropriately secured during times when minor participants are on the ice. All responsible adults serving as locker room monitors should be gender correct and the co-ed locker room policy must be followed. Monitors must be screened per USA Hockey screening standards and USA Hockey SafeSport certified. Unapproved, non-team personnel, including parents and family members are discouraged from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary.

- b. Cell Phones & Other Mobile Recording Devices:** Per USA Hockey policy, cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room.
- 2. Rosters:** Only players (including goalkeepers) listed on the USA Hockey 1-T Form - Official Team Roster may play in tournament games. **A player's name may only appear on one (1) roster for the Tournament.** Any team using a player not properly listed on the team roster or listed on more than one (1) roster will forfeit (1-0) any and all affected games. Any team using a player suspended for any reason will forfeit that game (1-0) and the suspended player will be ejected for the remainder of the tournament. Suspended players may attend tournament games but are not allowed on the player bench area. **Game suspensions (prior to the tournament) carry over and still apply to the tournament games.**
- 3. Game/Score Sheet:** Coaches or Managers must check in before each game at the desk and mark any scratches from a game (player not dressing) that must be reported to the scorekeeper prior to the start of the game. **A copy of the score sheet may be obtained from the tournament website after the game concludes. Do not wait on the ice surface, or in/around the player's bench, penalty box or scorekeeping area for the score sheet. No hard copy game sheets will be handed out.** Each team representative is responsible for checking the accuracy of the score sheet. Report all discrepancies to the Tournament Series Director ([tournaments@dallasstars.com](mailto:tournaments@dallasstars.com)) prior to the start of the next scheduled game. **The Tournament Series Director will not overturn any dispute concerning rules and / or the judgment applied by on-ice officials.**
- 4. Uniforms:** Home and Visiting teams are indicated on the tournament schedule. **Home teams shall wear light colored jerseys and matching socks. Visitors will wear dark colored jerseys and matching socks.** Teams may wear dark socks with light jerseys or vice-versa but both socks must be the same. All jerseys must have a player number clearly displayed. Taped numbers or players without numbers will not be permitted to participate in the tournament games. Numbers worn must correspond to the ones listed on the scorekeeper's roster.
- 5. Mouth Guards:** All players, including goalkeepers, are required to wear a mouth guard.
- 6. Neck Guards:** Per USA Hockey Rules and Hockey Canada Rules Agreement, all Canadian players must wear certified throat protectors.
- 7. USA Hockey Compliant Helmets:** (HECC Certified) must be worn at all times during warm-ups, games, handshake line and in the bench area.
- 8. Player's Bench:** All team coaches and/or official team representatives may occupy the player's bench prior to the completion of the ice resurfacing. **ALL PLAYERS SHALL REMAIN OFF THE ICE SURFACE UNTIL THE ZAMBONI DOORS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY CLOSED, NETS ARE IN PLACE AND ON-ICE OFFICIALS ARE PRESENT.** Failure to do so may result in a minor penalty assessment. With the exception of the tournament finals, all players shall exit the ice surface immediately after the center ice handshakes. **The only team officials allowed on the player's bench during a game are those registered with USA Hockey with appropriate Coaching Certificates and listed on the team's USA Hockey 1-T Form - Official Team Roster.** All parents, visitors and spectators are to remain away from the player's bench and penalty box areas.
- 9. Penalty / Box Attendant:** Each team is responsible to provide its own penalty box monitor or attendant. Monitors are strictly there to assist the player and scorekeeper with opening and closing the door. They are required to not be an impact to the game, or become verbally active with any game official. Penalty box monitors may not use phones, cameras or any other photographic equipment or electronic devices while in the penalty box area. Any such activity will result in immediate removal from the penalty box area, and possibly the rink for the duration of the tournament. All parents, visitors and spectators are to remain away from the player's bench and penalty box areas.
- 10. USA Hockey Officials:** All officials that oversee tournament games are to be certified by USA Hockey.
- 11. Penalties:** Penalty times for all divisions will be as follows:
  - a. Minor 2:00 minutes
  - b. Major 5:00 minutes
  - c. Misconduct 10:00 minutes

\*Penalties during running or stop time are of the same duration.

- 12. Misconducts:** Any fighting or match penalty will result in a tournament suspension. Game misconduct penalties will result in a minimum one game suspension. The Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director's decisions are final. Any players required to serve a suspension from prior USA Hockey game must complete suspension prior to playing first game, example: if a player incurred a suspension in his last game prior to the tournament this suspension must be served even if they must miss the first game of the tournament.

15 Team penalties in a game - Rule 401B	1 game suspension for Coach - Suspension is the next scheduled 1 game of that team currently appearing on the schedule at the time of the assessment.
2 Major penalties in a game - Rule 403B	2 game suspension for player - Suspension is the next scheduled 2 games of that team currently appearing on the schedule at the time of the assessment.
5 penalties to the same player in a game - Rule 401B	1 game suspension for player - Suspension is the next scheduled 1 game of that team currently appearing on the schedule at the time of the assessment.
Checking from Behind + 2 Minute Minor + Misconduct - Rule 608A	2 minute minor + misconduct - No suspension; penalty served in the box, and can resume play.
Checking from Behind + 5 Minute Major + Game Misconduct - Rule 608B or Match Penalty for Intent to Injure - Rule 608C/Rule 602A - which results in a Match Penalty (See below)	1 Game Suspension - Suspension is the next scheduled 1 game of that team currently appearing on the schedule at the time of the assessment (Major + GM) OR suspended from all USA Hockey activities pending a hearing by the governing body of that player.
Match Penalty	Suspended from all USA Hockey activities pending hearing by the governing body of the player; Requires a TAHA Hearing, or according to the local rules (for non-TAHA teams).
Fighting Major Rule 615A-F	Tournament suspension

13. **Game Time:** Teams should arrive at the rink at least one (1) hour before their scheduled game time. All teams must be ready to begin play **fifteen (15) minutes** prior to the scheduled start time of each game, except for the first game each day. If a team is not ready to begin at that time, it will be given a one (1) minute grace period. If a team is not ready to start at the conclusion of the grace period, the game will be forfeited (1 - 0). Otherwise, the game will start at the conclusion of the warm-up period.
14. **Game (Period) Lengths:** Tournament games are allotted as follows: **4 Games Guaranteed**. Period length in tournament games may vary depending on division and level of teams. In the event that a game is being played in an unsafe manner, the referee, at his/her discretion, can end the game at any point. A full report must then be forwarded to the Tournament Series Director.
- **14U, 15 (Only), 16U & 18U:** Teams will be assigned to 105-minute time slots where **three (3) - 17 minute periods (Ice cut between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> period for all divisions)** will be played

The scorekeeper will mark the official start time on the score sheet at the start of the warm-up period. All games will be played to completion. There is no curfew.

15. **Warm-up period:** Five (5) minutes for all divisions.
16. **Rest Time:** There will be a one (1) minute break between each period. Immediately after the first and second periods, the timekeeper will begin the one-minute countdown on the game clock. The next period shall begin immediately after the break. Minimum rest period between games (end of first to start of second) shall be a minimum of four (4) hours (unless both opposing coaches agree to forego). There shall be a minimum rest time of nine (9) hours between games (end of first to start of second) at night and the following morning.
17. **Run Time:** If at any time during the **third period** the goal differential reaches **six (6)**, the game clock will go to running time and will not stop for any reason other than at the direction of the on-ice officials until the game ends or the goal differential is reduced to less than **six (6)**. The game clock will not be stopped for goals scored, penalties, or any other reason while the "mercy rule" is in effect, unless directed by the on-ice officials.
18. **Time Out:** One 30 second time out is permitted per team per game.
19. **Tie Games:** For round-robin and semi-final games: If the game ends in a tie, each team will be awarded a point. A 3-player shootout will determine the winner of an extra point in the standings. Championship tie-breaker and shootout guidelines are outlined in item #21.
20. **Points:** will be awarded in the following manner for all games (maximum points awarded for a win will be 3 points regardless of how it is achieved).
- |             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| a. 3 Points | Win in Regulation  |
| b. 2 Point  | Shootout Win       |
| c. 1 Point  | Shootout Loss      |
| d. 0 Points | Loss in Regulation |
21. **Tie-breaker:** The following tie-breaker formulas below will be used to determine the order of finish (seeding) after bracket play between teams with an equal number of points. **Ties between 3 or more teams will default to tie breaker two (2) and proceed from there.**
1. Head to head record between 2 with equal points.
    - a. Teams that do not play "head to head" default to tie breaker two (2), and so on.

2. Fewest goals allowed overall.
3. Fewest Penalty Minutes.
4. Largest Goal Differential.
5. Coin Toss.

## **SHOOTOUT PROCEDURES:**

**IMPORTANT: Only Championship games that end in a tie shall first use a five (5) minute (sudden-death) stop-time, 3 on 3 (plus goalie), period to determine a winner. If the game remains tied after overtime a shootout will be used to determine a winner as outlined below:**

- a. Each team will select three (3) players to participate in the shootout. If a player is injured or is serving a penalty and unable to participate in the shootout the next eligible player is entitled to participate. Once a player shoots he/she is no longer eligible to participate until every player on the bench (excluding goaltenders, players serving penalties or players that are injured) has participated at least once.
- b. In the first round, players from each team will alternate shots, **with the winner of a coin toss shooting first.**
- c. Players will start at center ice and will begin play at the direction of the referee. Goalkeepers must remain in their crease until the shooting player has started play by touching the puck.
- d. Players are allowed one shot/shooting attempt only.
- e. After all three (3) players have finished their attempts; the team with the most goals is declared the winner.
- f. If, after all three (3) players have finished their attempts, the game remains tied; each team will start the second round by selecting one (1) player, who has not yet participated in the shootout, to take a turn. The shootout will proceed one player at a time with each team having an equal number of turns; the home team shoots last in each round. One turn for each team constitutes a round. Only after all players (not including goaltenders and players serving penalties) listed on the game score sheet have participated may a player take a second turn. During the second round and beyond, the team that scores first, with the other failing to score, is declared the winner.
- g. Ensure you scratch all players (on the game score sheet given to the scorekeeper) who will not participate in the game. Any team listing a player on their game score sheet that is not dressed for the game will forfeit the game when that player becomes eligible to shoot during the shootout.
- h. **Player(s) serving a penalty are not eligible to participate in the shootout.**

## **POLICIES**

1. **Zero Tolerance Policy: The Dallas Stars support the USA Hockey zero tolerance initiatives for verbal abuse of any player, official, parent or spectator.** Dallas Stars Tournament Hockey Director and/or Venue Coordinators or rink staff reserves the right to remove any violator from the premises. Team representatives and/or coaches are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their players, parents and fans. The game officials reserve the right to assess penalties for abuse, from players, the bench, or the fans. **Management has the right to refuse play of the upcoming game or for future games for any player who threatens or uses obscene or abusive language to any member of the Dallas Stars Tournaments or StarCenter staff.**
2. **Team Placements:** A Credentials Committee is in place who determines the eligibility of each player, coach and team to participate in the tournament as required in the current USA Hockey Annual Guide, and has verified the appropriate level of coaching credentials for all coaches. The committee places teams in competitive brackets based on their registration with USA Hockey, placement in their local league, and the record of the team in league play (assuming a record exists). International teams, and tournament teams with no record of play are placed based on either knowledge of other teams in their local, or from interviews with the respective coach and team manager to gain an understanding of their play, compared to those locally. Management has the right to align teams or change teams in any particular skill level, as well as suspend players that are not displaying the appropriate behavior that reflects the image of Dallas Stars Tournaments or StarCenters. **All decisions of the Credentials Committee, Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Committee regarding team placements are final.**
3. **Communication Policy & Protocol:** Tournament information and updates are communicated directly via email with Head Coaches and/or Team Managers. Team Representatives are responsible for cascading this information to their players & families. Communications directed to the Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Series Committee should come from the Head Coach and/or Team Manager.
4. **Refunds:** The first \$500 of the registration fee is deemed as the registration deposit fee and is non-refundable. Provided a team has paid in full, and request is made prior to registration closure, a full or partial refund may be granted/approved by the Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Committee (less the registration deposit fee). In certain emergency situations such as: player injuries or other valid medical reasons or natural disaster or state of emergency in the player's home/home city, the Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Committee may choose to waive the notice requirement. All refund requests must be made in writing (via email) and accompanied by valid documentation to support the refund request. No refunds will be given once the schedule is posted.

5. **Photography:** The tournament may designate an official photographer for the event. Taking photos of players from the player's bench or above the glass is not allowed for safety and competitive reasons. The Tournament Photographer is an approved vendor of the Dallas Stars and the facilities in which the tournament event(s) is being held, and all other vendors or persons will be asked to leave the facility. Individuals who do not comply may also be asked to leave.
6. **Noisemakers:** Noisemakers are not allowed in the viewpoint (upstairs enclosed area) between the rinks and the lobby area. Use of any type of artificial noisemakers at the on-ice seating area are strongly discouraged as a courtesy to nearby spectators. All spectators are asked to display good sportsmanship and recognize that it is just as important as players' conduct on ice. The primary purpose of this tournament is to provide a positive and fun atmosphere for all participants. Air horns are not permitted in any of the facilities.
7. **Fundraising:** As this tournament is run by the Dallas Stars, other groups and hockey associations may not pursue fundraising opportunities at any of the tournament venues. Teams that attempt to do will be asked to stop, and if it continues will be subject to suspension from the tournament, and possibly future events.
8. **Damages:** After all games, players are responsible for cleaning up all trash in their respective locker room(s). Any person causing damage to tournament facility(s) and/or tournament or facility(s) property will be fined commensurate with the damage and will be removed from the premises and/or suspended from all tournament activities and/or venues until the fine is paid in full. All persons are subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.
9. **Alcohol, Containers and Smoking:** Alcoholic beverages and/or glass containers are prohibited on StarCenter premises. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action against the offending individuals, including possible suspension from the tournament. This rule applies to the dressing rooms, player area, parking lot, grounds and restaurant/bar area (Alcoholic beverages are not allowed to be brought into the restaurant/bar area). Smoking (traditional and e-cigarettes) is not permitted in any StarCenter facility. However, chewing tobacco is allowed inside of the dressing rooms. All chew must be spit into a sealable container and disposed of properly. Chew is not to be disposed of in toilets, on the floor, or in the showers.
10. **Weapons:** Per HB910 "Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun".
11. **Trainers:** The Dallas Stars Tournament series may supply medical trainers at each facility for the duration of the tournament.
12. **Ambulance Service:** To insure the quickest response time, anyone may contact the EMT Services (911) in the event of an emergency situation. You may contact the Dallas Stars Venue Coordinator or the Rink Manager on duty to call 911. Any trips to the hospital using the transportation of an ambulance service or any other means that requires payment of service fee is the responsibility of the transported.
13. **Stay-2-Play:** Hilton is the exclusive provider of Stay-2-Play hotel accommodations for Dallas Stars Tournaments. All visiting teams and tournament participants are required to book via the Stay-2-Play portal and stay at listed Stay-2-Play Hilton hotel properties at Stay-2-Play advance purchase rates in order to participate in the tournament. No other booking sites, discounts, special rates or programs, regardless of how obtained, will be accepted. All Dallas Stars Tournaments require a 3-night minimum stay. All visiting team members and tournament participants are required to arrive and check-in to their selected Stay-2-Play hotel property the day before the tournament begins and check-out before departing the on the day the tournament ends. Participants who fail to follow these guidelines may be subject to disciplinary measures including, but not limited to, suspension or removal from the tournament, forfeiture of their team's tournament games, or other sanctions as determined by the Dallas Stars Tournaments Organizing Committee. Should this occur, no refund of tournament registration fees will be given. **All decisions of the Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Series Committee are final.**
14. **Best Interest of the Tournament:** The Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Series Committee is responsible for all inquiries or disputes regarding application of rules, or interpretation, player eligibility, disciplinary action and any other procedural disputes. While the majority of rules and policies needed to ensure smooth operation of the tournament are addressed herein, there may be issues, circumstances or situations arise that may not have been addressed or may appear ambiguous to one or more participants (teams, players, coaches, parents, etc.). In all cases the Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Series Committee reserves the right to interpret policies and rules, or add, amend or remove any Dallas Stars Tournaments procedure, policy, rule or regulation, including, but not limited to, playing rules, roster or eligibility rules, game schedules or format, to select or permit qualified teams to participate in the tournament or to align or change teams in any particular skill level or division at any time, in the best interest of the tournament. Should an issue, situation or circumstance arise that is not explicitly addressed herein, the Tournament Series Director and/or Tournament Series Committee, at its discretion may rule on the issue, circumstance or situation and act accordingly. The Tournament Series Director will not overturn any dispute concerning rules and /or the judgment applied by on-ice officials. **All decisions of the Dallas Stars Tournament Series Director and or Tournament Series Committee are final.**