



Arnprior Minor Hockey Association
P.O. Box 372, Arnprior, ON
K7S 3L9

AMHA Yearly Ice Time Allotment Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the factors and considerations that form part of the ice allocation process to ensure fair and equitable distribution of ice to all AMHA teams throughout the course of a hockey season.

Each hockey season can be broken down as follows:

- Pre-Season: Conditioning, try-outs and sort-outs;
- Regular Season: Competitive (Rep) and House League;
- Play-offs: head-to-head matchups or round robin formats that is determined by the League;
- Tournaments: Hosting of home tournaments and participating at away tournaments); and
- Special Clinics: Goalie and referee clinics.

During the course of a hockey season there are other factors and considerations that can impact the AMHA's ice allotment, distribution or scheduling such as league blackout dates as well as other facility user blackout dates (such a ringette, figure skating and other scheduled events).

Ice allocation efforts also take into consideration any requirements set-out in HEO Pathways that direct the approach to practice and play at certain levels (e.g., U9 or U11 Pathways).

Ice allocations between both ice pads at the Nick Smith Centre (NSC) will be done on a fair and balanced basis whenever possible. Preference will not be given to Competitive (Rep) teams over House League teams in relation to ice pad assignments. Regular season games are scheduled by the League Ice Scheduler based upon ice times provided by each association. An attempt will be made to schedule as many games on NSC's Pad A, but some games will be scheduled on Pad B depending on mutually available dates and ice availability.

Although the Ice Director will make best efforts to schedule suitable ice times, it must be recognized that not all requests can be accommodated given the sheer number of teams, Association and League requirements at play.

Practice ice Allocations

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
U7 Teams	2 half-ice practice times per week (on average depending on number of teams and schedule rotation). U7 will not share ice with any other level.	Practice duration is one hour in length (50 mins on ice + 10 mins Zamboni).
U9 (Tier 3 and 4) Teams	2-3 half-ice ice times per week (on average depending on number of teams and schedule rotation where applicable).	Practice duration is one hour in length (50 mins on ice + 10 mins Zamboni).
U11-18 House Teams	20 hours of practice ice time during the regular season (excluding playoffs) with some practices being shared ice depending on ice availability.	Practice duration is one hour in length (50 mins on ice + 10 mins Zamboni).
U11-18 Competitive (Rep) Teams	<p>20 hours of practice ice time during the regular season (excluding playoffs) with some practices being shared ice depending on ice availability.</p> <p>An additional allocation of up to 20 hours of practice ice time that is determined and purchased by each team at the beginning of the regular season once teams are formed that considered "Rep Fees".</p>	Practice duration is a mix of 1 hour to 1.5 hour practices (50 mins on ice + 10 mins Zamboni or 1 hr 20 mins on ice + 10 mins Zamboni).

AMHA will try to set regular and recurring dates and times for team practices. However, there are many variables that will cause practice dates and times to be adjusted that are outside of the Ice Director's control.

All teams are welcome to buy additional ice at their own expense should they wish to do so. Teams should contact NSC for available ice times or visit <https://www.arnprior.ca/en/recreation-and-culture/rentals.aspx> and then notify the Ice Director of the ice time they wish to purchase and provide the necessary information. The Ice Director will book the requested ice with the NSC and advise the AMHA Treasurer who will then invoice the team for the purchased ice time. Teams are also encouraged to arrange shared ice with other teams in order to increase and optimize time on ice to avoid incurring additional expenses. If agreements are reached, bench staff must advise the Ice Scheduler so that changes can be reflected on the AMHA website schedule, and so NSC may assign dressing rooms.

Game Ice Allocations

- House League games (all levels including U9) are 1 hour ice times (50 mins ice time + 10mins Zamboni).
- U11-U18 Rep games are 1.5 hour ice times (1 hour 20 mins ice time + 10 mins Zamboni).

Playoff Ice Allocations

- Playoff ice allocations will be dependent on the playoff format set by the League.
- Match-up formats (first to a set number of points) will have game ice allocated according to point set for each match-up. This will be split between home and away games (e.g., first team to four points would need at least 2 home game ice times and 2 away game ice times scheduled).
- Round robin formats will have game ice allocated according to the number of required games to be played (e.g., the need to play each team x times within a division).
- Regardless of format chosen by the League, each team that progresses in the playoffs will receive one practice ice time per week of playoff play.
- Once a team is eliminated from the playoffs, they will not receive any additional ice times, regardless of whether they have late season tournaments booked or not. If teams would like practice times leading up to late season tournaments, following the playoffs, they may request that some of their yearly allotment be held back for this purpose, or alternatively, purchase additional ice time at the respective team's expense.

Exhibition Games

Teams are able to schedule exhibition games by using existing allocated practice ice times. Teams are responsible for any necessary arrangements with visiting teams and payment for referees and timekeepers. Once a date and time has been arranged, the team's manager must advise the Ice Director so that the website can be updated to reflect the change from a practice time to an exhibition game so that adequate dressing rooms may be booked and assigned.

Roles and Responsibilities

The AMHA Ice Director is only responsible for the scheduling of all pre-season sessions, practice ice, and home games during both the regular season and playoffs. The Ice Director is also responsible for all submitted practice returns and game rescheduling requests. The Ice Director does not have access to other association's ice schedules and cannot make any changes to away ice times. Where scheduling conflicts occur, the bench staff should work with their respective AMHA Convenor and attempt to resolve it. Where matters require escalation, AMHA Convenors may reach out to the AMHA Ice Director along with the appropriate level League Convenor or League Ice Scheduler for assistance.

Team Managers should familiarize themselves with the ice and game scheduling directives that are available on the AMHA website within the Bench Staff tab under the Manager's section and follow the require steps and complete the necessary forms where needed.

Team Managers are responsible for entering all away tournament dates within their team's schedule on the website to ensure that home ice is not allocated while their team is away.

Team Managers are encouraged to discuss all ice scheduling questions and conflicts with their respective AMHA Convenor as an initial step. When necessary, Convenors may contact the Ice Director for further assistance.

Ice Returns

All unused regular ice must be returned to NSC within two weeks of its scheduled date. All unused tournament ice must be returned to NSC within four weeks of its scheduled date. Any returned tournament ice will be transferred to regular ice contracts.

If a team is unable to use a scheduled ice time, they must notify the Ice Director **AT LEAST 2 WEEKS** in advance of the scheduled ice time. If less than 2 weeks notice is given, this ice time will count against the team's practice time allotment, regardless of circumstances (i.e. weather, illnesses, holidays, school events, etc.). Team Managers may engage other team managers to canvass the possibility of an exchange of practice times. Any agreed upon changes must be communicated to the Ice Director so that the AMHA schedule can be updated accordingly.