

# Lambton-Middlesex Local League Playoff Format and Rules - 2014

## **Group Placements for Play-off Series games:**

At the end of the regular schedule all teams are placed into groups of 4, 5 or 6 teams based on their winning percentage in the regular season. The teams with the highest winning percentage are placed in Group A. The next teams are in Group B then Group C, D, etc. until all teams are equally divided and placed into a group of teams with similar competitive ability.

At the board meeting that immediately precedes the Round 1 Scheduling Meeting the league statistician presents playoff pool groupings for each division for approval by the board. The statistician creates each pool by including the teams with the most evenly matched winning percentages. Any exceptions to the Pool Formats listed below must be approved by a majority vote of the board members.

Round robins are played in three team, home and away format. Each team plays four games; one home game and one away game with each of their opponents. The team with the best record advances to the Championship round.

In a six point series home ice advantage is given to the team with the best record (by percentage) in the regular season. The team with home advantage will host two of the first three games and Game 5. If a Game 6 is necessary it should not be hosted by the home advantage team. The first team to achieve 6 points advances to the Championship round. If both teams have achieved 5 points at the end of game 5 then a game 6 should be scheduled. If the teams remain tied at the end of game 6 then a game 7 should be scheduled. If the teams remain tied at the end of game 7 then round robin tie breaker 3 will be used to break the tie.

## **6 Team Format:**

Series A: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place teams play a round robin series

Series B: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place teams play a round robin series

Teams are awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.

No overtime is allowed in any round robin series games.

If two or more teams are tied in points at the end of the round robin then the tie breakers detailed below will be applied to determine the series winner.

Championship – Winner of Series A plays Winner of Series B in a six-point final series.

## **5 Team Format:**

Series A: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place teams play a round robin series

Series B: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place teams play a six-point series

Teams are awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.

No overtime is allowed in any round robin Series games.

Overtime (as detailed below) is allowed in the six point series.

If two or more teams are tied in points at the end of the round robin then the tie breakers detailed below will be applied to determine the series winner.

**Championship** – Winner of Series A plays Winner of Series B in a six-point final series.

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## 4 Team Format:

Series A: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams play a six-point series

Series B: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place teams play a six-point series

Teams are awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.

Overtime (as detailed below) is allowed.

**Championship** – Winner of Series A plays Winner of Series B in a six-point final series.

## Tie Breaker for Round Robin Series:

If two or more teams are tied in points after the round robin series games are complete, a tie-breaker is used to determine the **winner of the series**:

1. Head-to-Head record in the play-offs
2. Most Wins. All games in round robin series
3. Goals For-Goals Against Formula – using scores from all games in series

Team	Goals For	Goals Against	Formula	Result
A	16	7	$(16-7) / 16$	0.5625
B	14	6	$(14-6) / 14$	0.5714
Team B wins series with highest percentage (0.5714)				

4. One Game Play-off. Home team = Best Record in League during Regular Season

**Overtime Rule:** Overtime may be allowed in games 5, 6 and 7 in a six-point series under certain circumstances:

**Game 5 in a six-point series:** If both teams are tied in points at the end of game 4 then the play-off series convenor will request a 10 minute sudden victory overtime period for Game 5 - subject to the host team having ice available to accommodate the extra period.

**Game 6 in a six-point series:** If both teams are tied in points at the end of game 5 then the play-off series convenor will request a 10 minute sudden victory overtime period for Game 6 – subject to the host team having ice available to accommodate the extra period. If directed by the League, the playoff convenor can request OMHA permission for additional overtime periods to a maximum of three.

**Game 7 in a six-point series:** If both teams are tied in points at the end of game 6 then the play-off series convenor will request OMHA permission for three 10 minute sudden victory overtime periods for Game 7 – subject to the host team having ice available to accommodate the extra period.

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## **PLAY-OFF RULES:**

- All game scores must be reported within 24 hours . Please send e-mail notification to the series convenor and copy the LMLL statistician and your Centre LMLL Rep.
- NO TIMEOUTS WILL BE PERMITTED IN ANY CURFEWED PLAYOFF GAME.
- All player and coach suspensions must be reported to the Playoff Series Convenor immediately.
- Curfews should be avoided in LMLL playoff games. Curfews must be clearly noted and initialed by both coaches on the game sheet before the game begins. When no curfew is scheduled the host team will enter "none" as the curfew time and both coaches will initial their curfew box.
- Period length is determined as shown in the LMLL Guidelines.
- The Final Series in each Group will require games to be scheduled during March Break. Players missing for March Break cannot be used as an excuse to reschedule a play-off game.
- All playoff games must be completed before the date established by the LMLL . Any game scheduled after the deadline requires the approval of the LMLL executive.
- All Playoff game changes must be facilitated and approved by the LMLL Centre reps for both teams.

**All Round One games will be scheduled on February 4. Games may begin as early as February 5. All series must finish on or before February 24/March 3.**

**All Championship Series games will be scheduled on February 25/March 4. Games may begin as early as February 26/March 5. All series must finish on or before March 31**

## **NOTES:**

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