

UOVMHL Playoff Structure - 2026

House League, U11 – U18

Teams at U11C, U13C, and U18B levels will be separated into divisions based on regular season standings. All levels will play off in a round robin series until March Break, after which the top two teams in each division will play off in a head-to-head championship series.

February 9th to March 12th – Round Robin

- Number of games based on number of teams in division.
- Balanced Schedule.

March 23rd to 31st (or local ice out): Division Playoff Championship Series

- Top two teams in each division only, based on playoff round robin.
- First to four points head-to-head series (details below).

House League Divisions

All other House levels are single division.

U11 House C – 13 Teams

A Division (6 Teams) – 1st through 6th
B Division (7 Teams) – 7th through 13th

U13 House C – 14 Teams

A Division (7 Teams) – 1st through 7th
B Division (7 Teams) – 8th through 14th

U18 House B – 11 Teams

A Division (4 Teams) – 1st through 4th
B Division (7 Teams) – 5th through 11th

Number of Games – Round Robin

Number of games varies based on the number of teams within a division, to ensure a balanced schedule.

U11B – A Division:	5	U11C – A Division:	5	U11C – B Division	6
U13B – A Division:	6	U13C – A Division:	6	U13C – B Division	6
U15B – A Division:	6	U15C – A Division:	8		
U18B – A Division:	6	U18B – B Division:	6	U18C – A Division:	5

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Competitive League, U11 – U15

All levels will play off in a round robin series until March Break, after which teams will be seeded into head-to-head championship series. The groups will not be divided into divisions.

February 9th to March 12th – Round Robin

- Number of games based on number of teams in division.
- Balanced Schedule.

March 23rd to 31st (or local ice out): Playoff Championship Series

- Top two teams at each age level, based on playoff round robin.
- First to four points head-to-head series.

Number of Games – Round Robin

Number of games varies based on the number of teams within a division, to ensure a balanced schedule.

U11 Competitive: 5 U13 Competitive: 5 U15 Competitive: 5

Competitive League, U18

All teams will compete in a semi-final, first to five points elimination series with the two winning teams advancing to the final championship series.

February 9th to March 12th – Semi-Final Elimination Series

- First to five points head-to-head series.
- Regular season standings, 1st vs 4th, 2nd vs 3rd.

March 23rd to 31st (or local ice out): Playoff Championship Series

- Winners of the Semi-Final Elimination Series advance.
- First to five points head-to-head series.

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Tie Breaking Rules for Round Robin Playoffs:

The following rules will be applied for playoff round robin standings. All statistics will be pulled from playoff games only.

- a) Total Points,
- b) Most wins (a team with one win (=2pts) seeds higher than a team with only two ties (=2pts),
- c) Head to Head between two teams only,
- d) Scoring Differential (%) Scoring Differential (FOR / (FOR + AGA)),
- e) Least amount of Penalty Minutes (PIM), *
- f) Coin Toss by league officials.

* The tie breaking rule for PIM may need to be applied manually should a tie remain after rules (a) through (d) are applied. The displayed standings may not accurately reflect this seeding if teams are still tied after the first four rules are applied.

Head-to-head series format, House and Competitive:

- First to four points with a maximum of four games.
- First to five points with a maximum of five games (U18 Competitive Only).
- Games 1, 3, and 5 are played at the home arena of the highest seeded team from the regular season.
- Two points are awarded for a win, one point for a tie.
- Four Point Series:
 - If ahead of Game 3 the series is tied at two points each, **the home team coach may elect to play overtime in the third game.** This decision must be made at least 24 hours prior to the start of the game and notifications completed.
- Five Point Series:
 - If ahead of Game 4 the series is tied at three points each, **the away team coach may elect to play overtime in the fourth game.** This decision must be made at least 24 hours prior to the start of the game and notifications completed.
- Overtime must be played in the final game of the series if the score is tied at the end of regulation.
- Overtime will be sudden victory with a series of five minute stop time periods. The first five minutes will be four on four. The second and subsequent five minute periods shall be three on three.

Notifications: A coach who elects to play overtime in Game 3 or 4 (as applicable above) must inform the following members at least 24 hours in advance:

- District Chair,
- League President,
- District Convenor for the level,
- Opposing team's Coach and Manager.