

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

1.0 ADMINISTRATION OF SPORT

1.1 MEETINGS.

1.1.1 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING. The annual business meeting shall be held via video on the second Wednesday in April at 10 a.m.

1.1.2 PRESEASON MEETING. The preseason meeting shall take place in September via video.

1.2 AD LIAISON. The AD Liaison is responsible for 1) Representing the AD Council at coaches meetings, 2) Communicating key information to coaches, 3) Representing coaches at AD Council meetings, including the presentation of minutes and action items.

1.3 ADMINISTRATION. MIAC Staff shall be responsible for chairing meetings and recording minutes. *(revised 5/25)*

2.0 SPORTS SEASON

2.1 PLAYING & PRACTICE SEASON. Follow NCAA Division III playing & practice season bylaws.

2.2 SCHEDULING POLICY. The conference hockey schedule shall be a double round robin in a back to back format that requires teams to play each other two times in a one-week period. Friday/Saturday sites will be reversed every other year *(revised 5/2012, 05/05, 5/02, 5/01, added 5/99)*

2.3 POSTPONEMENT/RESCHEDULING.

3.0 GAME/MATCH/MEET/CONDUCT

3.1 START TIMES. Time of contest shall be determined by the home team and agreed to by the visiting school (ice availability).

3.1.1 LINE-UP EXCHANGE. Teams will exchange lineup charts prior to pre-game warm-ups. One copy is to be exchanged between coaching staff members. *(added 5/14)*

3.2 RULES WHICH GOVERN CONTEST. The NCAA rules shall govern all games.

3.2.1 ICE REQUIREMENT. Conference games must be played indoors on artificial ice.

3.2.2 OVERTIME PROCEDURE. 3 on 3 for five (5) minutes, followed by a shootout per NCAA protocol. *(added 05/2021)*

3.2.3 JERSEY COLOR. The host school shall wear light jerseys and the visitors shall wear dark.

3.3 SITE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS. Ice shall be resurfaced between periods.

3.4 HOME TEAM SHALL

3.4.1 PUCKS. The home team will supply a minimum of twenty (20) pucks for visiting team's warm up.

3.4.2 LOCKER ROOM. Private dressing room should be assigned to game officials if possible.

3.4.3 STATISTICS. Provide the visiting team with a conference statistical sheet (triplicate).

3.2.4 INTERMISSION. Intermissions will be fifteen minutes in length.

3.5 VISITING TEAM SHALL

3.6 VISITING TEAM ROSTER LIMIT. The visiting team roster limit for all Conference games shall not exceed nineteen (19) players and three (3) goalies in uniform in the team's bench area at the start of the contest. (see MIAC General Code 3.4.6 for definition of Visiting Team Roster Limit and applicable penalties). The visiting team roster limit shall apply to both teams during all MIAC- post-season competition. *(revised 10/18, 5/13, 05/10, 05/07)*

3.7 VIDEO POLICIES. Film exchange details for all women's hockey contests. *(added 5/2021, revised 5/2024, 9/2023)*

- a. The home team is responsible for filming and uploading the game video file to the approved conference vendor (regular season, non-conference, and playoff games), starting the upload within two hours of the end of the game. Film will be broken down via the approved conference vendor agreement.
- b. For away non-conference games, film is required to be uploaded within 24 hours following the game. *(added 5/24)*
- c. All members have access to every game film provided they have uploaded all their home and non-conference games in the required timeframe. If a member fails to upload, a MIAC staff representative will contact them. They will then be locked out of their vendor account until the missing game(s) are uploaded.
- d. If, for any reason, you have difficulty with recording or uploading, you are required to email MIAC staff, all MIAC head coaches, and vendor support representative immediately and provide details of the situation.
- e. Video recording should run until all players and officials have exited the ice following the game.
- f. Video should be taken from best possible vantage point in the rink, as close to center ice as possible and zoomed out. Video should also be captured in the highest quality possible, a 4K recording device (iPad or video camera) is recommended.
- g. Non-conference coaches or representatives should never be granted online access to a game involving two conference member teams. It is NOT permissible to share video of your own game vs. a non-conference opponent to a non-conference team or provide a scout to a non-conference team of a MIAC member.
- h. Full games must be uploaded by home team onto the approved vendor. The MIAC will send a reminder to teams before the start of the season.

3.8 PRESS BOX PROCEDURES/ASSIGNMENTS.

3.9 IN-GAME VIDEO REVIEW. The MIAC will not automatically adopt any NCAA-approved instant replay rules. Any adoption of instant replay rules must be approved through the MIAC's legislative process to take action in the conference. An institution/team is permitted to use in-game video review in a non-conference contest hosted by a conference member in any sport. *(revised 5/2026; added 12/2016)*

3.10 EJECTION POLICY. All ejections from any contest will result in an automatic Incident Review. An institution that has a student-athlete or coach ejected from a contest is required to submit details of the incident, along with film (if available) of the ejection by noon the following business day *(exception: when competition occurs prior to the next business day, in which the ejection report is due by noon the*

following day). An Athletic Administrator must submit the information to the MIAC Commissioner. Information must include: a - written summary report of the ejection, b - film clip, c - any additional action the institution will be taking (if applicable). A head coach is not allowed to communicate directly with the commissioner during the incident review process. (revised 5/2026, 12/2022, 5/19; added 10/18)

4.0 GAME OFFICIALS

4.1 GAME OFFICIALS. Two (2) referees and two (2) linesman shall be assigned to administer game rules. (revised 05/13, 5/02)

4.1.1 POLICY TO ASSIGN OFFICIAL. Coordinator of Officials assigns officials for all MIAC schools.

4.1.2 POLICY TO RATE OFFICIALS. Each Monday following MIAC play, coaches are required to complete a formal evaluation of officials. (revised 5/09, 5/01)

4.2 SECONDARY OFFICIALS. Other game officials shall be trained and competent.

4.2.1 TIMER. One person to operate game clock. (added 5/09)

4.2.2 SCORER. One person to complete the official score sheet. (added 5/09)

4.2.3 PENALTY BOX. Two people to work penalty boxes. (added 5/09)

4.2.4 GOAL JUDGES. No goal judges are to be used during the regular season. (revised 5/13, 5/2012, added 2/10)

4.3 SUPPORT PERSONNEL.

4.4 MEDICAL PERSONNEL. Certified Athletic Trainer in attendance on sidelines. A physician is required to be available throughout the duration of all ice hockey games, provided by the host institution. (revised 5/25, 5/98)

5.0 MIAC/NCAA STATISTICS

6.0 DETERMINATION OF CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

6.1 HOW DECIDED.

6.1.1 CHAMPION. To be eligible a team must play all competing MIAC schools twice (double round robin). Championship shall be awarded to the team with the most points.

6.1.2 POINT SYSTEM & OVERTIME PROTOCOL. 5 minute sudden victory overtime with 3v3 (NCAA standard), followed by a best of 3 shootout if the game remains tied throughout. The following point system will be used for conference standings:

Regulation Win = 3 points

Overtime Win = 2 points

Shootout Win = 2 points

Overtime Loss = 1 point

Shootout Loss = 1 points

(revised 5/2022, 5/2021, 5/19)

^Rank order comparison: When arriving at another pair of tied teams while comparing records, use each team's record against the collective tied teams as a group (prior to their own tie-breaking procedure), rather than the performance against the individual tied teams. (Example: Team A and Team B tie for fourth place. Team C and Team D tie for second place. The Team C-D tiebreaker is settled first using tiebreaker criteria. If the Team A-B tiebreaker reaches the second-place team(s) in Criteria No. 3, Team A and Bs record will be compared collectively against Teams C and D, not individually against the winner of the C-D tiebreaker first. (added 5/15)

6.2 TIE BREAKERS/CO CHAMPS . In the event of a tie, there shall be co-champions.

7.0 POST SEASON POLICY AND PROCEDURE

7.1 AUTOMATIC QUALIFIER. The MIAC hockey tournament champion shall be the conference representative to the NCAA selection committee. In the event that the MIAC playoff cannot be completed, the highest remaining seed will be designated as the automatic qualifier. (revised 5/03, 5/01)

7.2 EVENT. Five-team, single elimination, high seed host (Wednesday, Saturday, Saturday) postseason playoff will take place throughout two weeks prior to the NCAA quarterfinals (#5 @ #4 to be played on Wednesday, #4/5 @ #1 and #3 @ #2 on Saturday, and finals at highest remaining seed on the following Saturday). (revised 5/2023, 5/14, 5/13, 05/07, 5/03, 12/01, 5/01).

7.2.0.1 GAME TIME. The home team in each playoff game will set the game time, communicated to the conference office no later than Saturday at noon on the final regular season contest. Women's hockey will have preference for game time in even/odd years and men's hockey will have preference in odd/even years. (revised 5/2022, added 3/17)

7.2.0.2 SCHEDULING CONFLICTS. If scheduling conflict arises, host team will make a recommendation on an alternate date/time to the Commissioner, Coaches' Chair and AD Liaison. The three-person committee will make the final decision based on recommendation from host institution. The Commissioner will select other committee members if their institution is involved in the particular game. (added 3/17)

7.2.0.3 HOST BOTH GENDERS. If the same institution is hosting both men's and women's playoff games on the same day, a four hour gap should be scheduled between the start times of the games. (i.e. 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.) (added 05/05)

7.2.1 PROCESS TO QUALIFY. Top five (5) teams at the conclusion of the MIAC schedule.

7.2.1.1 TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE. (for top five teams and placing the top five): based only on conference competition. (revised 5/2022, 5/08, 5/01)

1 - Head-to-Head (Points earned in head-to-head regular season conference series)

For multiple-team ties: Points earned in regular season conference series among all tied teams.

2 - Regulation Wins

- 3 - Regulation + Overtime Wins
- 4 - Regulation + Overtime + Shootout Wins
- 5 - Wins vs Top 4 in final standings (expanded to include any ties in final standings)
- 6 - Results vs Rank Order (if teams are tied in standings, they should be compared together)
- 7 - Goal Differential in games between tied teams only
- 8 - Goal Differential in games vs teams above tied teams in standings
- 9 - Goal Differential in all conference games
- 10 - Random Draw

7.3 PLAYOFF PROCEDURE.

7.3.1 QUARTERFINAL. On the first date of the tournament: #4 seed vs. #5 seed *(revised 5/01, corrected 5/04)*

7.3.2 SEMIFINAL. On the second date of the tournament: #4 or #5 winner vs. #1 seed, #2 seed vs. #3 seed *(revised 5/01, corrected 5/04)*

7.3.3 CHAMPIONSHIP. On the third date of the tournament: Winners from the semifinal games will play for the championship *(revised 5/01, corrected 5/04)*

7.4 ADMISSION. Determined by the MIAC Budget Committee.

7.5 OFFICIALS. Assigned by the MIAC Coordinator of Officials.

7.5.1 GOAL JUDGES. Conference staff goal judges for MIAC Playoff Games. *(added 5/19)*

7.6 GAME SUPPORT.

7.7 PROTEST COMMITTEE.

7.8 ROSTER. The visiting team roster limit (Bylaw 3.6) shall apply to both teams during all MIAC-post season competition. *(added 5/13)*

7.9 ALL-PLAYOFF TEAM. See bylaw 8.5. *(added 8/2022)*

7.10 PLAYOFF TRAVELING TROPHY. The Jill Pohntilla Playoff Traveling Trophy will be presented to the playoff champion as a traveling trophy. It is the responsibility of the winning team to engrave details on the trophy and ensure it is delivered to the appropriate place for the follow year's championship game. *(added 5/25)*

8.0 AWARDS

8.1 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS. The conference champion shall receive the MIAC plaque.

8.2 ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM. The All-Conference team will consist of 20 players. Only conference statistics will be used in determining placement on the All-Conference team. All-Conference certificates for customization and printing may be downloaded from the MIAC administrator website. *(revised 05/06, 5/04, 3/00, 5/99)*

8.2.1 TEAM STRUCTURE. The All-Conference team will consist of 20 players, including 12 forwards, six (6) defensemen, and two (2) goalies, as voted on by head coaches. Ties are accepted.

8.2.2 HONORABLE MENTION. After the All-Conference Team has been established, any players who were not named All-Conference but still received at least three votes in the balloting will receive Honorable Mention distinction. *(revised 5/22, 5/16, 5/06)*

8.3 INDIVIDUAL HONORS. All nominating and voting will be conducted by the conference office using the online awards system. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players for All-Conference, but may vote for their own players for individual awards. Coaches will vote using separate online ballots for each award and use the same timeline as All-Conference voting. Each vote is worth one point. The individual receiving the most votes in each category will receive the honor. Ties are accepted.

8.3.1 COACH OF THE YEAR. Each conference head coach will be on the ballot for Coach of the Year. Coaches may not vote for themselves.

8.3.2 OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR. *(revised 5/22)*

8.3.3 DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR. *(added 5/22)*

8.3.4 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR. To be eligible for nomination, the student must be a true college first-year student (not a transfer from another institution or an academic sophomore/junior/senior who has not used eligibility). *(added 5/22)*

8.3.5 SHEILA BROWN AWARD. The Sheila Brown award is given to a senior MIAC women's ice hockey player who has made a long-term contribution to their team's success, has excelled competitively, displayed good leadership and citizenship. The following criteria will be used in selecting the award winner:

1. Team leadership
2. Sportsmanship and volunteer work
3. Academic excellence
4. Hockey skills and production

To be eligible, a player must be nominated by their coach in the online awards system with information submitted focusing primarily on the four criteria. The recipient will be voted on by head coaches. Nominations must include GPA, major, and a brief write up of the attributes that fit the criteria listed. St. Catherine will provide a plaque each year. *(added 05/05, revised 5/18)*

8.4 ATHLETES OF THE WEEK. A Women's Hockey Offensive and Defensive Player of the Week will be chosen each week of the conference regular season. SIDs will nominate and the MIAC office will select the winners. *(revised 5/22)*

8.5 ALL-PLAYOFF TEAM. An 8-player All-Playoff Team will be selected. Each playoff-qualifying coach will submit their honorees from their own team. The team eliminated in the quarterfinals will submit one (1) player, the two teams eliminated in the semifinals will each submit one (1) player, the second place team will submit two (2) players, and the champion will submit three (3) players. The team will honor a total of 8 players. The deadline to submit honorees is 5 p.m. the Monday following the MIAC Playoff Championship. The All-Playoff Team will be announced on the Tuesday following the MIAC Playoff championship. *(added 8/2022, revised 12/2022)*

9.0 AWARDS SELECTION PROCESS

9.1 NOMINATIONS. Coaches will nominate deserving players from their own team using the MIAC's online awards system. Nominations will open the Wednesday prior to the final weekend of regular season and close the Sunday following the end of the regular season. (revised 05/13, 05/06)

9.2 VOTING. Coaches will vote using the MIAC's online awards system. Voting will open on the Monday prior to the first round of the MIAC Playoffs and close on Wednesday of the same week. Coaches will vote for the All-Conference team by position, with points being awarded based on rank order and slots at each position. The top-ranked forward on each ballot will receive 12 points with the second-ranked forward receiving 11 points and so on. The top defenseman on each ballot will receive six points and the top goalie on each ballot will receive two points. (revised 05/13, 05/06)

9.3 ANNOUNCEMENT. The conference office will publicly announce the award recipients on the Monday after the MIAC Playoffs. The conference office will work with coaches and SIDs to proof and release the awards list.



PRE-GAME PROTOCOL

ICE HOCKEY

Host will consult with opponent(s) regarding the pregame schedule. The host will keep teams notified of changes in the schedule and of any adjustments to game time(s).

The following pregame schedule will be followed for MIAC regular season and postseason contests, unless changes are agreed upon in advance:

Put 60 minutes on the clock and start exactly one hour before game.

Game Clock	Protocol
43:00	Home team personnel notifies teams and officials that five minutes remain before teams are to take the ice for warm-up.
39:00	Officials take ice for warm-up.
38:00	Home team takes ice for warm-up.
37:50	Visiting team takes ice for warm-up.
24:00	Horn sounds, signaling one minute remaining in warm-up; team captains meet with officials. <i>Note: Meeting with captains may be held before the start of this time schedule.</i>
23:00	Both teams off ice; ice will be resurfaced.
15:00	Eligible players and starting lineups submitted to official scorer. The home team notifies the visiting team as to the length of intermissions.
10:00	Home team personnel notifies teams and officials that three minutes remain before teams are to take the ice.
8:00	Officials take ice.
7:00	Home team takes ice.
6:50	Visiting team takes ice.
6:00	Horn sounds signaling teams to assemble on their respective goal lines.
5:00	Starting lineups announced; national anthem, crowd control statement read. Officials check each starting goalkeepers' throat straps.
0:00	Timekeeper puts 20 minutes on clock; game starts.

NOTE: The above-mentioned schedule shall be followed; however, due to inclement weather, facility constraints, playing area delays, or administrative demands, the schedule may be adjusted with consultation from both teams and officials.