



2025-26 CMHL Playoff Formats

Below you will find the playoff formats for each division within the Central Minor Hockey League. CMHL always wants to maximize the number of games played for all their divisions and in a perfect scenario, would be playing games up to the end of March whenever possible. Due to HNS seasonal structure, in conjunction with other factors such as March Break, SEDMHA, and ice availability, the best approach for the 2025-26 playoffs was to conclude league play before March Break.

For pooled divisions, when drafting the pools, standings were looked at as of January 17, 2026 and used as a baseline for the splits but were not the main basis for the makeup of each pool. Game days were considered to ensure a reasonable balance and not to overload a particular day with games, therefore creating numerous conflicts. Finally, for divisions that included multiple teams from an association, those teams were not assigned to the same pool, under any circumstances.

Division: U11-AA

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the HNS Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U11-A

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the South Conference Championship Vs the Scotia Minor League winner - deadline March 29, 2026 - CMHL Champion will host this game
 - South Conference Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U11-B

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U13-AA

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U13-A

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: Single round robin - top four (4) teams will advance to the semi-finals

- League Winner will advance to the South Conference Championship Vs the Scotia Minor League winner - deadline March 29, 2026 - CMHL Champion will host this game
 - South Conference Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U13-B

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U15-AA

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- The 4 teams advancing to the semi-finals will also qualify for Provincials

Provincials: Glace Bay, April 2-5, 2026



Division: U15-A

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS
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Division: U15-B

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- The teams advancing to the CMHL final will also qualify for the provincial final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS as there are no other U15-B teams in the province.
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Division: U18-AA

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: Series

- Quarter Finals - best of 3 - (1 vs 8, 2 vs 7, 3 vs 6, 4 vs 5), higher seeded team will host 2 of the three games (any order)
- Semi-Finals - best of 3, higher seeded team will host 2 of the 3 games (any order)
- Championship - single game
 - Both teams advancing to the CMHL Championship game will also qualify for provincials

Provincials: New Waterford, April 3-5, 2026



Division: U18-A

Deadline to complete the playoff round: March 1, 2026

CMHL Championship Weekend: March 6-8, 2026 @ Greenfoot Energy Centre in Bedford, NS

Format: 2 Pools (A/B) - single round robin - top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals (1 A vs 2B, 1B vs 2A)

- League Winner will advance to the Provincial Final - April 11/12, 2026 @ Rath Eastlink Community Centre in Truro, NS