

## **Baltic woman's Ice-Hockey Championship 2021 regulations**

### 1. Goals and tasks

1.1. To popularize, organize, develop and supervise hockey events in Baltic states by developing hockey players as physically active, educated, family-oriented and nationally patriotic values.

1.2. To find out the champion of the Baltic woman's Ice-Hockey Championship 2021

1.3. Improve the skills of hockey players and prepare reserves for the Latvian hockey team, taking into account the interests of the Latvian national team and the U-18 national team;

1.4. Promote women's hockey in the country, engage girls and women in regular hockey activities.

1.5. Attract municipal support (both financial and material) for women's hockey by ensuring the championship is included in the municipal sports calendar.

### 2. Baltic woman's Ice-Hockey Championship 2021 organizing management

2.1. Baltic woman's Ice-Hockey Championship 2021 (hereinafter Championship) shall be organized and conducted by the Latvian Hockey Federation (hereinafter LHF);

2.2. According to these Regulations, direct control of the competition is provided by the LHF Sports Director.

2.3. The 2021 Championship shall take place in accordance with:

2.3.1. IIHF hockey rules;

2.3.2. LHF Board decisions;

2.3.3. Regulations on the Baltic woman's Ice-Hockey Championship 2021;

2.3.4. Regulations "About player transfer";

2.3.5. LHF "Discipline Penalty" Regulations;

2.3.6. Other binding decisions of LHF Board and Commissions and approved regulations.

2.4. The supervision of the Championship Games shall be carried out by the Sports Director.

2.5. Organizational issues under the guidance of the Sports Director are discussed at a meeting of the Women's Hockey Development Committee, which is representative of all Latvian women's hockey clubs, as well as additionally invited representatives of women's hockey clubs from other countries who have expressed interest in taking part in competitions.

2.6. All violations of the regulations and properly filed protests are reviewed by the LHF Disciplinary Committee. The decisions of the LHF Disciplinary Board may be appealed in the LHF Board.

### 3. TIME AND LOCATION

- 3.1. The 2021 Championship will run from October 9, 2020 until the scheduled time in the Game Calendar approved by the LHF Board.
- 3.2. Championship games are only allowed in ice rinks approved by the local MNA.
- 3.3. The eligibility of ice rinks for the championship is decided by the LHF approved Ice Rink Admissions Committee.
- 3.4. Each club participating in the Championship must have their own home ice rink, which must be notified in writing, with a copy of the contract, to the LHF.
- 3.5. If a club needs to play home games in another country, two day tournaments may be organized to save resources, when multiple games are played.

### 4. THE PARTICIPANTS

- 4.1. The Championship is open to Latvian Hockey Clubs who are LHF members or nominees who have paid their membership fees for 2019, have fully settled all previous financial obligations with the LHF and paid entry fees to the Championship, and foreign clubs approved by the LHF Board.
- 4.2. Only hockey players licensed by local MNA for the 2020/2021 season are allowed to participate in the championship.
- 4.3. Clubs entering the Championship are responsible for the health insurance of their team players.
- 4.4. All hockey players born in 2003 and younger (under the age of 18 at the start of the Championship) together with a team entry must submit a filled and signed special form permission for a junior hockey player to play in the championship (under the "About LHF" section of the LHF website) "Documents").
- 4.5. Hockey players born no later than 2007 (including) are allowed to enter the Championship.
- 4.6. Teams are allowed to participate in the Championship if not less than 15 (fifteen) hockey players, including the goalkeeper, are entered.
- 4.7. Each team is allowed to apply a maximum of 30 (thirty) hockey players, including the goalkeeper, at the start of the Championship.
- 4.8. No more than 5 (five) foreign hockey players of the respective age are allowed to apply for and use in league games in any club team.
- 4.9. During the season, with the additional application, the higher subgroup team is allowed to enter 5 lower subgroup players, but higher subgroup players are not allowed to play in the lower subgroup.

### 5. RULES OF PROCEDURE

- 5.1. The championship is played in 2 groups - Group A and Group B.
- 5.2. In each group (A and B) of the Championship, teams play 2 rounds (each with each) to determine the top 4 teams, according to the amount of points, that qualify for the second round of the Championship, the elimination tournament.
- 5.3. After the first round of the Championship, the teams that have won the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place according to their points are determined.

5.4. In the second round of the championship, Teams ranked from 1<sup>st</sup> to fourth place in the First round play an elimination tournament.

5.4.1. Teams that have won 1-4 place in the regular Championship respectively play in the semi-finals. 1st place winner plays with 4th place winner, 2nd place winner plays with 3rd place. The semifinal series consists of one game. The semifinal game is hosted by a higher ranked team in Round 1. The game winners qualify for the Championship Final. The losers qualify for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place game in the Championship.

5.4.2. The championship finals for 1st place and 3rd place are played up to 1 (one) victory for any team.

5.4.3. The exact schedule of the playoffs is published on the LHF website.

5.5. In the first round of the Championship, the duration of the game in regular time is 3 x 12 minutes net play time, ice rental time not more than 60 minutes;

5.5.1. In the event of a draw in regular time, a series of three (3) penalty shootouts will decide the game winner. Shootout is started by the home team.

5.6. In the second round of the Championship, the duration of the game in regular time is 3 x 12 minutes net play time, ice rental time not more than 60 minutes;

5.6.1. In the event of a draw in regular time, after a two-minute break without cleaning of the ice, an extra time of 5 (five) minutes is played, three against three (3:3), until the first goal scored;

5.6.2. If the result of the game is still tied after the overtime, a series of three (3) penalty shootouts shall be awarded. After-game throws are first started by the hosts.

5.7. Games start on weekdays no later than 21:30 and no earlier than 17:45, on Saturdays and Sundays no later than 21:00 and no earlier than 10.00.

## 6. SINGLE GAME PROCEDURE

6.1. The game must proceed according the schedule.

6.2. Only the Event Coordinator has the right to change the playing time in case of force majeure.

6.3. 20 minutes before the start of the game, the team receives from the secretary the game application form, 10 minutes before the start of the game it must be filled and submitted to the game secretary. The guest team must submit first.

6.4. The start time of the game is the time of first face-off.

6.5. Prior to the game, the ice rink must allow teams to warm up on the ice for 2 minutes before the first face-off of the game.

6.6. Home team must ensure the presence of licensed medical personnel 10 minutes prior to and throughout the game.

6.7. It is mandatory for medical personnel to sign the application on the game before giving their teams a warm-up, stating their medical certificate number and stamping the doctor's stamp.

6.7.1 If any player is injured during the game, the game secretary must make a note in the report of the nature of the injury and the assistance provided by the medical staff (signature). This is confirmed by the referee of the game.

6.8. The game must start not later than 10 minutes after the start time (including warm-up time for the teams).

6.9. If certified medical personnel have not arrived and signed the game application by the scheduled start time, the game cannot start and the home team will receive a technical loss.

- 6.10. The game can start if 11 players, including the goalkeeper, have entered on the ice.
- 6.10.1. If fewer than 11 hockey players have entered the game, the game cannot take place.
- 6.11. A player who is not included in the team application for a particular game and is not entered in the minutes cannot participate in the game.
- 6.12. If such an unannounced hockey player is found by the secretary during the game, the referee shall immediately dismiss him for the remainder of the game.
- 6.13. If such an unannounced player scores a goal or assists the goalkeeper, the goal is not counted, or if such a player was only on the field during the game, the referee shall immediately disqualify him for the remainder of the game.
- 6.14. If such an unannounced player commits a penalty, the Referee shall immediately dismiss him for the remainder of the match and the penalty shall be imposed on the player designated by the team coach.
- 6.15. If it is determined that a hockey player who is not currently on the team's application for the championship has taken part in the match, the team is awarded a loss in the particular game. The LHF Disciplinary Board shall decide on the penalty for the LHF member concerned for non-compliance with the Championship Regulations.
- 6.16. After the start of the game, the secretary of the game is prohibited from making any changes in the composition of players of the teams recorded in the game protocol (adding or removing a player from the protocol). Failure by one of the teams to comply with this rule will result in the loss of the match to the disciplinary board, but the match referee and the clerk who made changes after the start of the match will be penalized as decided by the referee committee.
- 6.17. No more than six team members may be on the team reserve bench during the game. Team members must be in the team's application.
- 6.18. The host of the game must ensure a minimum internet connection of at least 20Mbps at the referee's table, both at Brigade Judges' premises for webcasting on the LHF website (on-line) and on Internet TV. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in a disciplinary report.
- 6.19. The hosts must provide the game secretariat with a printer and copy machine for documentation. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in a disciplinary report.

## 7. ADDITIONS TO THE RULES

- 7.1. All hockey players must wear full face masks, players under the age of 18, neck guards.
- 7.2. In the game record, the player who scored the shootout winner is recorded as the goal scorer.

## 8. APPLICATIONS

- 8.1. Teams' application with full roster for the Championship must be submitted to the LHF by September 30, 2020.
- 8.2. A copy of the standard contract with the ice rink where the Championship home games will be played must be submitted together with the team application.
- 8.3. Fully filled team applications on the LHF approved form (on the LHF home page under "Documents" in the "About LHF" section) must be submitted together with the completed

special forms, incl. for hockey players born in 2003 or later (respectively, who are under 18 at the start of the championship).

8.4. Foreign hockey players and Latvian club players who change their club membership when applying for the Championship must have a fully completed IIHF or LHF transition card.

8.5. Membership in the club is governed by the LHF "About player's transfer" Regulations.

8.6. Additional applications must be submitted to the LHF office every working day from 10 am to 3 pm, but not later than 24 hours before the regular Championship game.

8.7. Changes to applications can be made via email. In these cases, the correctness of the presentation of the application is taken into account, including the presence of all the required signatures on the Supplementary Application, the availability of all required supporting documents and the time of receipt of the e-mail by LHF.

8.8. Team compositions and player profiles mentioned in the team application are posted on the LHF website to ensure transparency and fair play in accordance with the Championship Regulations.

8.9. Teams up to 10 (ten) official team representatives can apply for the Championship.

## 9. DETERMINING THE WINNERS

9.1. In the Championship, team positions are determined according to the amount of points won.

9.2. In the Championship first round:

9.2.1. Team victory in regular time - 3 points,

9.2.2. Overtime victory or after game shootout - 2 points,

9.2.3. Loss in overtime or after-shots - 1 point,

9.2.4. Loss in regular time - 0 points.

9.3. In the event that two or more teams have the same number of points at the end of the Championship, the team that meets the following criteria, ranked according to their importance, takes the higher place:

9.3.1. More points in mutual games;

9.3.2. Better goal-to-play difference;

9.3.3. More goals scored in mutual games;

9.3.4. More wins in all championship games;

9.3.5. Better goal difference in all championship games;

9.3.6. More goals scored in all championship games;

9.3.7. Lesser number of team's penalty minutes in the Championship;

9.3.8. Fewer player penalties of 25 minutes penalties;

9.3.9. By lottery.

## 10. PROTESTS

10.1. If a team wishes to file a protest, the team head coach or club manager who wishes to file a protest shall immediately notify the referee of the game, who shall record the oral application in the minutes of the match. This must be done no later than 15 minutes after the end signal.

10.2. The written protest, signed by the club leader, with a detailed statement of the nature of the protest, must be sent in mail or delivered in person to the LHF within 24 hours of the start of the game, excluding holidays and public holidays.

10.3. Protests not accepted:

10.3.1. Offside position;

10.3.2. Icings;

10.3.3. Selection of the face-off position;

10.3.4. The minor penalties

10.3.5. Allowed or disallowed goals.

10.4. It is allowed to submit additional materials for the Disciplinary Board together with the protest, provided that the materials are handed over to the referee of the game no later than 30 minutes after the end signal of the game. Submissions subsequently submitted may not be considered by the Disciplinary Board and the Judicial Committee.

## 11. DUTIES OF CLUBS AND ARENAS

11.1. Teams participating in the competition must have two different sets of uniforms. The guest team plays matches in light coloured suits, and the hosts in dark, contrasting coloured suits. It is possible to match uniforms and change colours between teams, but only before applying for the game.

## 12. RIGHTS

12.1. Officials of the teams shall have no right to interfere with the work of the referees or to interfere with them in any way:

12.1.1. Entering the referees' locker room;

12.1.2. During a hockey arena game;

12.1.3. Post-game press conferences, mass media, or social networks to express dissatisfaction with refereeing, opponents club managers, hockey players, coaches and championship organizers.

12.2. The team does not have the right to refuse a match on the calendar due to illness of the players, lack of transport or any other reason.

## 13. RULES FOR MARKETING AND ADVERTISING.

13.1. Within their respective jurisdictions, LHF and Championship Clubs carry out promotional activities based on agreements with advertisers and sponsors.

13.2. The club, along with the hall owners, must guarantee the placement of the LHF logo, championship logo and Federation Sponsorship advertisements, as determined by the LHF Board Meeting decision, on the edges at pre-agreed locations. No more than four LHF logos in the Championship. Advertising of the championship is provided by clubs. (LHF covers all technical expenses). For non-advertising, the fine is up to EUR 500.

13.3. It is imperative for the club to coordinate all promotions with the LHF to avoid abuse and conflict situations.

13.4. Clubs are responsible for the production and marketing of their fan gear, souvenirs and other items.

13.5. Clubs have the right to sell or sponsor their sponsor's products on-site or on-site during the Games.

13.8. Clubs must work with the LHF to promote the image of the Championship.

13.9. All live coverage of the Championship (on TV / Internet portals) is owned by LHF.

13.10. The LHF is entitled to use television, video and photographic material depicting some or all of the Championship games, including pictures of players, coaches. As part of its internal privacy policy, the LHF may use them in its own activities and those of the LHF Sponsors for the purpose of promoting Junior Development League clubs. Such rights do not waive the rights of clubs / teams to such material recorded in their home games. The Club is responsible for complying with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation when taking photographs and / or filming of the Championship events and participants, including for shooting / filming permission for players under 18.

#### 14. LIABILITY

14.1. Club leaders, coaches and managers must adhere to the Code of Ethics.

14.2. Club leaders and coaches are responsible for the behaviour of the hockey players during the competition, including the hour before and just after the game.

14.3. Absence from the game is reviewed in all cases where:

14.3.1. the medical staff did not arrive on time;

14.3.2. the ice is not ready for the start of the game, which will be decided by the referees during the regular championship, in the playoffs with the participation of the supervisor;

14.3.3. the team does not have enough players;

14.3.4. The transport of the guest team on the way;

14.3.5. Other cases when the referee of the game considers that the game cannot start within the set time or with a delay of 10 minutes for warm-up.

14.4. Failure to attend the match will result in the team losing 0: W and the Disciplinary Board will decide on the appropriate penalty.

14.5. The team that does not attend the scheduled match will cover all expenses incurred by the opposing team in organizing the match (direct costs of the match), in accordance with the LHF's estimated loss and the disciplinary committee's decision.

14.6. After the second absence, the team may be disqualified and fined according to the decision of the LHF Board.

14.7. Match results for the excluded and other teams are counted if the excluded team has played more than 50% of the tournament games. Otherwise, the match results in the tournament table will be void.

14.8. The decision to sanction a club that has applied for team participation in the championship but withdraws during the tournament is decided by the LHF Disciplinary Board and approved by the LHF Board.

14.9. The club responds and maintains public order and safety in the hall one hour before, during and one hour after the end of the game.

#### 15. THE REFEREES

15.1. Championship games are eligible to be served by field and brigade referees licensed by the LHF Referees Committee, as well as designated and approved by the Interstate Interchange, or by the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Grade A, B and C, and licensed or approved by the LHF.

15.2. Referees for the Games are appointed by the LHF Referees Committee.

15.4. The referees' decision in the course of the game is final and cannot be challenged by players, club leaders or coaches.

15.6. Composition of the Referees in the Championship:

15.5.1. There are two referees on the ice.

15.6.2. Clerk, net time referee;

15.6.3. The hosts provide 2 penalty referees.

## 16. AWARD

16.1. The winner of the championship is awarded the Champions cup. Players and team management receive champion gold medals (25 in total).

The runner-up team players and team management receive silver Championship medals (25 in total).

Third place team players and team management receive bronze medals (25 in total).

16.2. In addition, the Champion's best goalkeeper, best goalie, best forward, top scorer and Championship MVP are awarded.

## 17. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

17.1. The LHF financially supports the participation of hockey clubs from Baltic states in the Championship. The amount of LHF support for clubs licensed by LHF per home game is EUR 115,00.

17.2. Participants from countries outside Baltic region pay EUR 1000,00 tournament entry fee.

17.3. The LHF shall bear the costs relating to:

17.3.1. Expenses of referees;

17.3.2. Providing direct management of the Championship;

17.3.3. Purchase and presentation of championship prizes.