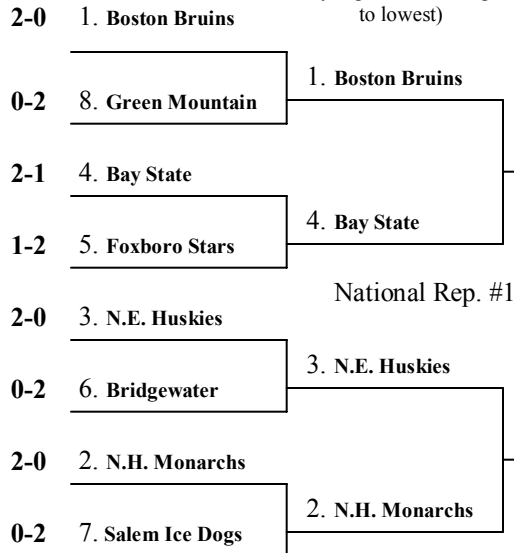


PLAYOFF FORMAT AND BRACKETOLOGY

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ROUND 1
Home of Higher Seed
March 2-4, 2007
2 Games, and Mini

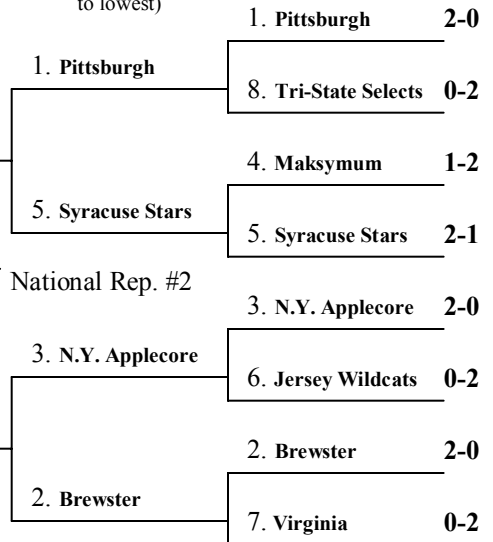
ROUND 2
Home of Higher Seed
March 9-11, 2007
3 Game Series
(Teams get reseeded by highest remaining to lowest)



AMERICAN CONFERENCE

ROUND 2
Home of Higher Seed
March 9-11, 2007
3 Game Series
(Teams get reseeded by highest remaining to lowest)

ROUND 1
Home of Higher Seed
March 2-4, 2007
2 Games, and Mini



FINAL FOUR WEEKEND

Albany, NY

March 16-18, 2007

Round Robin with Top 2 teams
advancing to the Championship
game for National Tournament
Seeding, both teams qualify.

National Rep. #1

National Rep. #2

The Empire League playoffs for 2006-07 will take place in March 2007. The playoffs will be conducted over three weekends. Currently, the Empire League is made up of two conferences the **American Conference** and the **National Conference**. Each conference is made up of two divisions.

The American Conference is comprised of the Eastern and Western Divisions. The National Conference is made up of the Northeast and the Atlantic Divisions. There are 9 teams in the American Conference and 11 teams in the National.

For playoffs, the **top eight teams in each conference will make playoffs.**

These Sixteen teams will meet on the weekend of **March 3 & 4**. The playoff location will be at the venue of the higher seeded team. The format used will be a two game series, with a 10 minute mini-game to follow if need. Games will be 3-20 minute periods followed by a 5 minute sudden death overtime played 4 on 4. It is safe to assume that the first team to earn three points (1 win and 1 tie) or better, will win the first round. Games can end in a tie in games 1 and 2, if the series remained tied after 2 games then a 10 minute mini-game will follow. The mini game is not sudden death, but the overtime to follow if tied would be. From this quarter final round **eight teams will advance to the semifinal round.**

The semifinals will be held on the weekend of **March 10 & 11**. Again, the location will be the home venue of the higher seeded team. This series is a little less complicated, teams play a best of three series. **Four teams will advance to the final round on the third weekend.**

The Empire League finals will be held in Troy, New York at the RPI Arena on the weekend of **March 16, 17 & 18**. The four final teams will play a round robin tournament. The top two teams will play a championship game to determine the Empire League champ and the number one and number two seeds to the Tier II junior 'B' Silver Cup Championship to be held in Grand Rapids.

National Championship will take place March 29-April 2, 2007 in Grand Rapids, MI.

Key Points:

1. Touch icing is back in for the playoffs . This is the rule at Nationals.
2. Overtimes will be played 4 on 4 and are 5 minutes in length. Overtime is sudden death.
3. No center redline. This is the rule at Nationals.
4. Shoot-outs when used after overtime will be in group format 5 shooters at a time. If there is no winner after the first group of five shooters goes, then a second group of 5 shooters goes. It is NOT sudden death shoot out where the 6th shooter can end it.
5. There are no points rewarded for an overtime loss.
6. Home team has the choice to shoot or defend first, in a shootout scenario.