

State of Season Update

Team Representatives and League Officials met Thursday evening (November 12) via Zoom to discuss how the season is progressing amidst the pandemic. Most of the teams reported no currently active cases of COVID-19 among players and coaches. So the season will continue; however, some changes have been adopted for the remainder of the season.

Before teams play each other, it is now mandatory for the respective Team Representatives to communicate their current COVID-19 status and discuss whether the game(s) should be played.

Some games have already been cancelled due to COVID-19 and there may be more. It may, or may not be possible to reschedule the missed games. Because teams might end the season not playing the entire 32-game schedule, the year-end tournament format and the way standings are computed have changed.

For this season only, all 12 Varsity teams and the top six Jr. Varsity teams will participate in the year-end tournament in Ames, March 4-7. The tournament format will be released at a later date.

The League will now move to the RPI* (rating percentage index) system to compute standings and seedings for the year-end tournament. Pointstreak is unable to compute the RPI system, so the RPI standings will be posted manually on the League website on a periodic basis.

So far only a limited number of games have been canceled and most teams are reporting no current cases of COVID-19. Let's keep this trend going – everyone wants to play hockey! All players, coaches, parents and fans should make every effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among the League. Respect your team and arena guidelines for pandemic prevention. LET'S KEEP PLAYING!

*The Rating Percentage Index is a quantity used to rank sports teams based upon a team's wins and losses and its strength of schedule. It is one of the sports rating systems by which NCAA hockey teams are ranked

How is RPI calculated?

1. Your team's winning percentage = wins ÷ games played
2. Your team's opponent's winning percentage (OPP) = total wins by opponents ÷ total games played by opponents
3. Your team's opponent's opponents winning percentage (OPP's OPP) = total wins by opponent's opponents ÷ total games played by opponent's opponents
4. $RPI = (\text{your team's winning percentage} \times 0.3) + (\text{OPP} \times 0.4) + (\text{OPP's OPP} \times 0.3)$

Teams are then ranked by the value of the RPI – highest number to lowest.