



PRESS RELEASE

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HOCKEY EAST ANNOUNCES 08-09 WOMEN'S COMPOSITE SCHEDULE **~League announces new playoff format for upcoming season~**

WAKEFIELD, Mass. - The Hockey East Association and commissioner Joe Bertagna announced the 2008-2009 league women's composite schedule on Thursday afternoon, which features a 21-game league schedule for each of the eight member schools in addition to several marquee out of conference matchups throughout the season.

The 08-09 WHEA season opens with two exhibition contests on Friday, September 26, as Dawson plays at Connecticut's Freitas Ice Forum and 2008 Frozen Four participant New Hampshire hosts Brampton at the Whittemore Center in Durham.

The conference officially kicks off regular-season play on Saturday, September 27 as UConn will host Sacred Heart in Storrs, Conn. for a single game (4pm). The remainder of the league will kick off the regular season the next weekend. On Friday, October 3, Providence College will host the Ohio State Buckeyes in the beginning of the two-game series, while Maine hosts WCHA foe North Dakota at Alford Arena in Orono. Northeastern and first-year head coach Dave Flint will open the season on the road on Friday against Rensselaer and the Boston University Terriers open up against Union in Schenectady, N.Y. Boston College will host Clarkson for its home opener on Saturday, October 4. New Hampshire and BC will open the seventh annual league schedule on Wednesday, October 8 at the Whittemore Center, while Vermont opens with a two-game set at Union on Friday, October 10.

The regular season will determine the six teams that qualify for the Hockey East Championship Tournament. The league athletic directors voted to expand the tournament field to six teams at the annual conference meetings in Naples, Fla. in April of 2008. The third and fourth seeds in the tournament will host a quarterfinal round game on Saturday, February 28 or Sunday, March 1 on their respective campuses. The advancing teams will then be reseeded with the top two seeds to play on the site of the highest seed in the semifinal round on Saturday, March 7. The winners will qualify for the seventh annual Hockey East Championship Game on Sunday, March 8. The game will be televised by the New England Sports Network (NESN). The winner of the league tournament will receive an automatic berth into the 2009 NCAA Tournament for a chance to play in the Frozen Four on Friday, March 20 hosted by league member Boston University and Agganis Arena.

The Women's Hockey East Association is an eight-team, Division-I college hockey conference which began play in 2002-2003, with offices based in Wakefield, Mass. The league also sponsors an 10 team men's league which began play in 1984-1985.

- HockeyEastOnline.com -

2008-2009 HOCKEY EAST WOMEN'S COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

* denotes Hockey East game - All times Eastern (EST) Revised 9/17/08

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 26

Dawson at Connecticut (exh, 7pm)

Brampton at New Hampshire (exh, 7 pm)

Saturday, September 27

Sacred Heart at Connecticut (4pm)

Dawson at Northeastern (exh, 2pm)

Brampton vs. Boston College (exh, 3pm, at UNH)

Prince Edward Island at Maine (exh, 12pm)

Sunday, September 28

Dawson at Boston University (exh, 12pm)

Brampton at Providence (exh, 2pm)

OCTOBER

Friday, October 3

Connecticut at Minnesota State (7pm)

Ohio State at Providence (7pm)

North Dakota at Maine (7pm)

Northeastern at Rensselaer (7pm)

Boston University at Union (7pm)

Saturday, October 4

Connecticut at Minnesota State (3pm)

Ohio State at Providence (4pm)

North Dakota at Maine (2pm)

Northeastern at Union (4pm)

Boston University at Rensselaer (2pm)

Clarkson at Boston College (2pm)

Sunday, October 5

Clarkson at Boston College (2pm)

McGill at Vermont (exh. 7pm)

Wednesday, October 8

Boston College at New Hampshire * (7pm)

Friday, October 10

Northeastern at Bemidji State (7pm)

St. Lawrence at Providence (7pm)

Mercyhurst at Boston University (7pm)

Colgate at Connecticut (7pm)

Maine at Minnesota State (7pm)

Vermont at Union (7pm)

Saturday, October 11

Northeastern at Bemidji State (3pm)

St. Lawrence at Connecticut (4pm)

Mercyhurst at Boston University (3pm)

Colgate at Providence (4pm)

Maine at Minnesota State (3pm)

Vermont at Union (3pm)

Rensselaer at Boston College (4pm)

New Hampshire at Niagara (2pm)

Sunday, October 12

New Hampshire at Niagara (2pm)

Wednesday, October 15

New Hampshire at Connecticut * (7pm)

Friday, October 17

Sacred Heart at Maine (7pm)

Saturday, October 18

Providence at Northeastern * (1pm)

Connecticut at Vermont * (2pm)

Sacred Heart at Maine (2pm)

Clarkson at Boston University (3pm)

St. Lawrence at New Hampshire (2pm)

Sunday, October 19

Providence at Vermont * (3pm)

Northeastern at Connecticut * (3pm)

Clarkson at New Hampshire (12pm)

St. Lawrence at Boston University (3pm)

Thursday, October 23

New Hampshire at Boston University * (7pm)

Friday, October 24

Cornell at Vermont (7pm)

Connecticut at Princeton (7pm)

Saturday, October 25

Boston College at Providence * (2pm)

Maine at Boston University * (2pm)

Yale at New Hampshire (5pm)

Connecticut at Princeton (7pm)

Cornell at Vermont (4pm)

Quinnipiac at Northeastern (2pm)

Sunday, October 26

Maine at Providence * (2pm)

Quinnipiac at Boston College (2pm)

Thursday, October 30

Boston University at New Hampshire * (7pm)

Friday, October 31

Vermont at Boston College * (2 pm)

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 1

Vermont at New Hampshire * (5pm)

Providence at Boston University * (3pm)

Boston College at Northeastern * (2pm)

Wednesday, November 5

Boston College at Dartmouth (7pm)

Friday, November 7

Wayne State at Vermont (7pm)

Providence at Robert Morris (7:35pm)

Saturday, November 8

Maine at Connecticut * (1pm)

Wayne State at Vermont (4pm)

Providence at Robert Morris (7:35pm)

Sunday, November 9

Maine at Northeastern * (2pm)

Thursday, November 13
Connecticut at Boston College * (7pm)

Friday, November 14
New Hampshire at Maine * (7pm)
Boston University at Princeton (7pm)
Vermont at Quinnipiac (7pm)
Northeastern at Wayne State (7pm)

Saturday, November 15
Boston University at Quinnipiac (4pm)
Vermont at Princeton (4pm)
Northeastern at Wayne State (3pm)

Sunday, November 16
Boston College at Maine * (2pm)
Connecticut at Providence * (2pm)

Thursday, November 20
Boston College at Connecticut * (7pm)

Friday, November 21
Mercyhurst at Providence (7pm)
New Hampshire vs. Wisconsin (at Fort Myers, Fla., 7:07pm)

Saturday, November 22
Boston University at Boston College * (3pm)
Niagara at Providence (7pm)
New Hampshire vs. Wisconsin (at Fort Myers, Fla., 2:07pm)

Tuesday, November 25
Vermont at Maine * (at Lewiston, Maine, 7pm)
Boston University at Yale (7pm)
Brown at Connecticut (7pm)

Wednesday, November 26
Northeastern at New Hampshire * (5pm)

Friday, November 28
Maine at Robert Morris (2pm)
Princeton at Boston College (12pm)
Nutmeg Classic (at Connecticut)
Wayne State vs. Connecticut (4pm)
Yale vs. Quinnipiac

Saturday, November 29
New Hampshire at Colgate (2pm)
Providence at Brown (Mayor's Cup, 7:30pm)
Vermont at Clarkson (2pm)
Maine at Robert Morris (2pm)
Nutmeg Classic (at Connecticut)
4pm Consolation/7pm Championship

Sunday, November 30
Northeastern at Boston College * (2pm)
Vermont at Clarkson (1pm)

DECEMBER

Friday, December 5
Boston University at Vermont * (3pm)
Boston College at Connecticut * (7pm)
Providence at Maine * (7pm)
Harvard at New Hampshire (7pm)

Saturday, December 6
Providence at Maine * (2pm)

Northeastern at Vermont * (4pm)

Sunday, December 7
New Hampshire at Boston University * (3pm)

Tuesday, December 9
Northeastern at New Hampshire * (7pm)

Wednesday, December 10
Boston College at Boston University * (5pm)

Friday, December 12
New Hampshire at Harvard (7pm)
Union at Maine (2pm)

Saturday, December 13
Union at Maine (2pm)

Sunday, December 14
Harvard at Connecticut (2pm)

Tuesday, December 30
Dartmouth at Vermont (7pm)
Providence at Yale (3pm)

JANUARY

Friday, January 2
Boston University at Ohio State (7pm)
Yale at Northeastern (7pm)
Boston College at Colgate (5pm)

Saturday, January 3
Vermont at Connecticut * (1pm)
Boston University at Ohio State (4pm)
Northeastern at Brown (4pm)
Boston College at Yale (7pm)

Sunday, January 4
Vermont at Connecticut * (1pm)
Providence at Cornell (2pm)

Monday, January 5
Providence at Cornell (2pm)

Thursday, January 8
Northeastern at Boston University * (7pm)

Friday, January 9
Maine at Clarkson (7pm)
Boston College at St. Lawrence (7pm)

Saturday, January 10
Boston University at Connecticut * (1pm)
New Hampshire at Providence * (1pm)
Niagara at Northeastern (7pm)
Vermont at Mercyhurst (2pm)
Maine at Clarkson (2pm)
Boston College at St. Lawrence (3pm)

Sunday, January 11
Niagara at Northeastern (3pm)
Vermont at Mercyhurst (1pm)

Tuesday, January 13
Providence at Dartmouth (7pm)

Thursday, January 15
Boston College at Northeastern * (7:30 pm)

Friday, January 16
Mercyhurst at Connecticut (7pm)
Dartmouth at New Hampshire (7pm)

Saturday, January 17
Boston University at Maine * (7pm)
Vermont at Providence * (2pm)
Mercyhurst at Connecticut (4pm)

Sunday, January 18
Boston University at Maine * (5:30pm)
Vermont at Providence * (2pm)
New Hampshire at Northeastern * (2pm)

Friday, January 23
Northeastern at Connecticut * (7pm)
Maine at New Hampshire * (7pm)

Saturday, January 24
Maine at New Hampshire * (2pm)
Boston College at Vermont * (2pm)
Connecticut at Northeastern * (3pm)
Boston University at Providence * (2pm)

Sunday, January 25
Boston College at Vermont * (2pm)
Providence at Boston University * (3pm)

Thursday, January 29
Boston College at New Hampshire * (7pm)

Friday, January 30
Northeastern at Maine * (2pm)
Vermont at Boston University * (7pm)
New Hampshire at Boston College * (7pm)

Saturday, January 31
Vermont at Boston University * (3pm)
Northeastern at Maine * (2pm)
Connecticut at Providence * (1pm)

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 1
Providence at Connecticut * (1pm)

Tuesday, February 3
Beanpot Semifinals (at Northeastern)
Boston University vs. Harvard (5pm)
Boston College vs. Northeastern (8pm)

Friday, February 6
Boston University at Connecticut * (7pm)
Northeastern at Providence * (7pm)

Saturday, February 7
Connecticut at Boston University * (3pm)
Maine at Boston College * (1pm)
New Hampshire at Vermont * (2pm)
Providence at Northeastern * (7pm)

Sunday, February 8
Maine at Boston College * (1pm)
New Hampshire at Vermont * (2pm)

Tuesday, February 10
31st annual Beanpot Tournament at Northeastern
Championship/Consolation (5/8pm)

Friday, February 13
Connecticut at Maine * (2pm)
New Hampshire at Providence * (7pm)

Saturday, February 14
Connecticut at Maine * (2pm)
Vermont at Northeastern * (2pm)
Boston University at Boston College * (1pm)

Sunday, February 15
Providence at New Hampshire * (2pm)
Vermont at Northeastern * (2pm)

Friday, February 20
Boston College at Providence * (4pm)

Saturday, February 21
Maine at Vermont * (2pm)
New Hampshire at Connecticut * (1pm)
Boston University at Northeastern * (2pm)
Providence at Boston College * (1pm)

Sunday, February 22
Maine at Vermont * (2pm)
Connecticut at New Hampshire * (2pm)
Northeastern at Boston University * (3pm)

Saturday, February 28
WHEA Quarterfinals (on campus of higher seed, TBA)

MARCH

Sunday, March 1
WHEA Quarterfinals (on campus of higher seed, TBA)

Saturday, March 7
WHEA Semifinals (TBA)

Sunday, March 8
WHEA Championship (12pm, NESN)

Friday, March 13 to Sunday, March 15
NCAA Tournament
Quarterfinal Round (on campus site of higher seed)

FROZEN FOUR (Times TBA)

Friday, March 20
NCAA Semifinals at Agganis Arena (Boston, Mass.)

Sunday, March 22
NCAA Championship at Agganis Arena (Boston, Mass.)