

**KHL Championship – Russian Ice Hockey Championship 2011/2012.
Stage 2 Guidelines**

At the end of Stage 1 (regular season) eight teams from each Conference advance to Stage 2 (playoffs). In each Conference two Division winners are seeded first and second, first being the team with more points scored throughout Stage 1. The other five teams in each Conference are seeded third to eighth depending on points scored and regardless of Division placing.

Higher seeds gain home advantage in every round of the playoffs. In each Conference in every round the highest seed plays the lowest seed, with second highest seed playing second lowest etc.

1. In each Conference every playoff tie (**quarterfinals, semifinals and final**) is best-of-seven series. Games 1 and 2 (and, if necessary, Games 5 and 7) are played on higher seeded team's home ice. The team winning four games advances to the next round. The team losing four games is out of the competition.

1.1. Conferences quarterfinals

Games to be played on following days:

Conference WEST: February 29, March 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 10, 2012

Conference EAST: March 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11, 2012

1.2. Conference semifinals

Games to be played on following days:

Conference WEST: March 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25, 2012

Conference EAST: March 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26, 2012

1.3. Conference finals

Games to be played on following days:

Conference WEST: March 28 and 30, April 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, 2012

Conference EAST: March 29 and 31, April 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10, 2012

2. Conferences finals' winners advance to the **Championship's final** series, which is also best-of-seven. Games 1 and 2 (and, if necessary, Games 5 and 7) are played on higher seeded team's home ice. The team winning four games becomes the Championship winner and is awarded **Gagarin Cup**.

Note: *If both Championship finalists have the same seeding numbers in respective Conferences, home advantage is awarded to the team with higher number of points scored throughout Stage 1.*

Games to be played on following days:

April 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25, 2012