

Document Type	Policy	Document Title	5.0 Teams
Revision	0	Created On	April 30, 2017

Revision	Scope of Revision	Approved By	Date
0	Migration to new format from old policy manual	RD Ringette Executive	Apr 30, 2017

5.0 Purpose:

To define how teams are structured and developed within Red Deer Ringette.

5.1 Team Divisions and Age Ranges:

- Red Deer Ringette will create teams in alignment with Ringette Canada and Ringette Alberta defined divisions:
 - U19 includes 16 – 18 years of age
 - U16 includes 14 – 15 years of age
 - U14 includes 12 – 13 years of age
 - U12 includes 10 – 11 years of age
 - U10 includes 6 – 9 years of age
 - Note that U10 division includes Stage 1/2/3
 - Active Start includes 5 years of age (4 years of age may be accepted depending on circumstances)
- Age is determined as of December 31st of start of season year.

5.2 Tiering of Teams:

- Tiering of teams will be completed as per Ringette Alberta Policy.
- The Evaluations Committee may (upon the direction/recommendation of the Coaching Committee and in consult with the Association Executive) decide to tier differently depending on the needs of the association.

5.3 General Evaluation Considerations:

- All divisions:
 - Evaluations will be conducted by one of two committees depending on division:
 - U10 Evaluations Committee
 - U12 and up Evaluations Committee'
 - Membership of each committee can be found in Appendices “D” and “E”.
 - All results of the evaluation process shall be final and will remain confidential
 - At no time will individual scoring or ranking information be shared with anyone outside the Evaluation Committees
 - Skating Skills Evaluations may be conducted using a broad range of volunteers as the testing is done as defined timed drills.
 - Game Skill Evaluations will be conducted by coaches or experienced volunteers who are not directly involved with or have an interest in the division that will be evaluated.

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- If sufficient evaluators are not available using this criteria, the Evaluations Director will find alternates
- The Evaluations Committee will strive to have 6-8 evaluators for each evaluation game session.
- Depending on the number of teams that need to be evaluated and tiered, additional evaluation sessions may be required as determined by the Evaluations Director. The specific evaluations for each division will be communicated prior to the start of evaluations for each year.
- Any player that does not attend one of the game evaluations shall be assigned a ranking based upon the review of her attendance at the other sessions and with input by way of the prior year coach's evaluation for that player. This shall be at the sole discretion of the Director of Evaluations.
- No child or parent's request for a specific coach shall be entertained except under exceptional circumstances. Any requests must be submitted in writing or email to the Evaluations Director of that level prior to the start of evaluations. (A request based on preferred coaches, siblings playing together or travel circumstances, does not provide sufficient grounds for such a request). The Evaluations Committee shall be responsible to make a judgement in each case and such decision shall be final.

5.4 Active Start Evaluation Process

- Active Start Division
 - No evaluations completed
 - If numbers warrant, the group may be divided into two via different color jerseys in a method determined by the coach.

5.5 U10 Evaluation Process

- Evaluations are done on players with the resulting scores being used to create teams of equal strength at the three levels of U10 – Stages 1, 2 and 3.
 - The number of Stage 3 teams will be adjusted on a year by year basis depending on the outcome of evaluations.
 - Stage 3 teams may play in the Black Gold League dependent on the number of teams the association can field and therefore out of town travel for this level will likely be required.
- Evaluation will consist of 2 parts:
 - A skating skills assessment portion as directed by Ringette Alberta through the use of the Universal Athlete Assessment Tool (UAA). If Ringette Alberta does not specify a skills assessment process, the Evaluations Committee will develop or identify one.
 - This assessment will contribute **30%** to the overall score of each athlete.
 - A game skills assessment portion as determined by the Evaluations Committee.
 - This assessment will contribute **70%** to the overall score of each athlete
 - Each athlete will attend a minimum of one game skills assessment.
 - Further game skill assessments may be scheduled by the Evaluations committee if numbers warrant or more data is required to properly place the athletes or validate team skill balancing.

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- The overall score of each athlete will be placed in rank order and grouped in pools for team drafts.
- The Evaluation Committee will determine the number of teams and levels based on results of the rank order player results taking into consideration any Ringette Alberta instructions or policies.
- Coaches will be selected by the Coaching Committee as per Policy 6 - Coaching.
- Coaches will draft teams under the supervision of the Coaching Director and U10 Director of Evaluations or their designate.
 - Draft will be started by coin flip
 - Subsequently, first choice in each pool will be rotated among the coaches.
- If there is more than one team at a given level, a meeting of the coaches at that level, the Evaluations Director and Coaching Director will be scheduled to ensure equality of teams.
- Where evaluation scores do not clearly indicate an athletes placing (on the bubble), the Director of Evaluations reserves the right to make the placement decision considering:
 - Input from the teams coach (if one has already been assigned)
 - Information from past season player evaluations done by coaches (if available)
 - Other criteria that is equally applied across all athletes “on the bubble”

5.6 U12 and U14 Evaluation Process

- Evaluations will consist of 2 parts:
 - A skating skills assessment portion as directed by Ringette Alberta through the use of the Universal Athlete Assessment Tool (UAA). If Ringette Alberta does not specify a skills assessment process, the Evaluations Committee will develop or identify one prior to the start of evaluations.
 - This assessment will contribute **30%** to the overall score of each athlete
 - All athletes (including goalies) must attend the skating skills assessment session
 - A game skills assessment portion as determined by the Evaluations Committee.
 - This assessment will contribute **70%** to the overall score of each athlete
 - Athletes who have requested to evaluate for an “A” level team must attend the “A” level game skills evaluation.
 - For “A” level game evaluations
 - A minimum of 2 ice sessions will be scheduled
 - For “B” level game evaluations
 - No game may be scheduled if there is only 1 “B” team after the “A” level team(s) have been determined
 - A minimum of 2 ice sessions will be scheduled in the event there are enough athletes for 2 “B” level teams or 1 team at each “B” and “C” level
 - For “C” level game evaluations
 - No game may be scheduled if there is only enough athletes for 1 “C” level team after the “A” and “B” level teams have been determined.
 - A minimum of 1 ice session will be scheduled to verify team balance in the event there is 2 or more “C” level teams

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- An additional ice may be scheduled if validation of team re-balancing is required after the 1st ice session.
- U14 Division athletes can identify their preferred position for games
- The Evaluations Director reserves the right to request individual players not attend a second game session of any level game if the athlete is evaluated extremely strong or extremely weak to allow for more effective evaluation of the remaining pool of players.

5.7 U16 and U19 Evaluation Process

- Evaluations will consist of 1 part
 - A game skills assessment portion as determined by the Evaluations Committee.
 - This assessment will contribute **100%** to the overall score of each athlete
 - Athletes who have requested to evaluate for an “A” level team must attend the “A” level game skills evaluation.
 - For “A” level game evaluations
 - A minimum of 2 ice sessions will be scheduled
 - For “B” level game evaluations
 - No game may be scheduled if there is only 1 “B” team after the “A” level team has been determined
 - A minimum of 2 ice sessions will be scheduled in the event there is enough athletes for 2 or more “B” level teams
 - Players will be evaluated based on their position of preference as entered on their registration form.
 - Each athlete may compete in up to 3 games throughout the process
 - Tangible skills being evaluated include (but not limited to):
 - Skating
 - Passing and receiving
 - Overall ring handling
 - Shooting
 - Intangible skills being evaluated include (but not limited to):
 - Work ethic
 - Aggressiveness
 - Positioning
 - Overall movement among the play

5.8 Affiliation:

- Affiliation means that a player can be called up from her regular team to play on a higher level team within Red Deer Ringette and/or a Zone 4 team on an as needed basis.
- All affiliation in Red Deer Ringette will be done in alignment Black Gold League and Ringette Alberta policies with the exception of the following:
 - If 2 Red Deer teams are playing against each other in any game (league or tournament), the Red Deer teams may not use affiliate players unless the team numbers fall below 10 skaters. Any conflicts with the affiliate’s team would need to be addressed as per Red Deer Ringette policy.

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- Player affiliation is conditional on the player, parents (guardian), coaches and Red Deer Ringette agreeing to the affiliation. On these matters, Red Deer Ringette shall be represented by the Coaching Director (or designate from within the Red Deer Ringette Executive).
- An affiliate player's primary responsibility is to their own team. If there is a scheduling conflict, the player must attend their own ice time. At the request of the affiliating team's coach, approval may be granted from the Coaching Director to use an affiliate if there is a scheduling conflict. In this instance, written permission must be obtained from the coach of the player's regular team, and the decision will be rendered based on the likely effect on that team
- Failure of a player to abide by the Affiliate policies of Red Deer Ringette, Black Gold League and/or Ringette Alberta will result in affiliation being revoked. A player cannot affiliate to another team in the same season if affiliation is revoked.
- There are no additional fees for affiliation
- Scheduling conflicts between various levels of Provincial play may be unavoidable. As such, coaches are advised to consider this possibility when selecting players to affiliate and select a variety of affiliates since each affiliate's responsibility is to their regular team.
- If the Coaching Director is unable to attend or reschedule an affiliate selection or draft meeting, he/she may request a designate from the Red Deer Ringette Executive to oversee the process in his/her absence.
- General Affiliate Selection Process
 - The applicable Evaluations Director will provide a list of affiliates to be considered for each division.
 - Affiliation will start at the upper age and level division (ie U19A)
 - U19A will choose affiliates from two levels down (19B/U16A or U16A/U16B)
 - U16A will then choose from U16B/U14A
 - And so on
 - Coaches may select a player that is not on the list provided by the Evaluations Director providing the choice aligns to the Ringette Alberta affiliation table.
- Where 2 teams are at the same level in a division, an affiliate draft will be done
 - The applicable Evaluations Director will provide a list of affiliates to be considered in the draft.
 - The Coaching Director will ensure that the coaches are aware of the draft procedures and shall be present (or designate) to observe the draft.
 - A coin toss will be held to determine starting draft
 - Coaches will then alternate choices until draft is complete in a snake like fashion:
 - Round 1, Coach #1 - 1st pick, Coach #2 – 2nd pick
 - Round 2, Coach #2 – 3rd pick, Coach #1 – 4th pick
 - Round 3, Coach #1 – 5th pick, Coach #2 – 6th pick
 - And so on
 - After the draft is completed, coaches may select a player that is not on the list provided by the Evaluations Director providing the choice aligns to the Ringette Alberta affiliation table.
 - Draft order shall never be published and shall only be known to the coaching staff and the Coaching Director

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- Each team involved in the draft may have a maximum of two coaches attend the draft.
- When a draft involves the affiliation of a player whose parent(s) is a coach involved in the draft, then the drafting Head Coaches and the Coaching Director shall meet prior to the draft. The Head Coaches and Coaching Director in attendance shall then agree in which round of the draft that parent shall select his/her child. If unanimous agreement cannot be reached, then the Coaching Director shall make the decision and such decision shall be final.

5.9 Overage/Underage Players:

- All requests for a player to move up an age category or play down from her designated age category are to be submitted to the coaching committee of Red Deer Ringette for consideration prior to the start of evaluations and must meet the criteria in the applicable Ringette Alberta policy.
- Decisions of the Evaluations committee will be made under the rules of Ringette Alberta and will also take into consideration what is best for the athlete while taking the needs of the association into consideration.
- Overage and Male player situations will be addressed in alignment with Black Gold League and Ringette Alberta policies.
- All decisions will be final.

5.10 Staffing:

- Required for **All** Teams (multiple roles may be filled by the same person):
 - 2 **certified** Coaches for the team level (or ability to certify in the season as per Ringette Alberta policy)
 - 1 must be female
 - 1 **certified** Manager
 - 1 Treasurer
 - 1 Gift Card Coordinator
 - 1 Minor Officials Coordinator
 - Scoresheet
 - Timekeeper
 - Penalty Box
 - Shot Clock (U12 and up)
 - 2 Friends On Ice Tournament Representatives
 - 1 Pub Night Fundraiser Representative
 - 1 Team Photography Representative
 - 1 Association Meeting Representative
 - 1 Jersey Parent (U10 Stage 2 and up)
- Optional:
 - Parent Liaison
 - Meal Coordinator (for tournaments)
 - Social Coordinator

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- Trainer
- Junior Coach
- Goalie Coach