



POLICY TITLE: TOURNAMENT POLICY

Effective Date: August 30, 2017

## **PURPOSE**

Tournaments can be an important part of the ringette experience. Most teams enter tournaments each year, although it is not mandatory. Attendance at an excessive number of tournaments during a season has several negative affects including, but not limited to: altering the competition to training ratios as recommended in the LTAD Framework, causing issues relating to practice and game scheduling and rescheduling, putting increased financial and time strains on families, reducing time for athletes to engage in alternate activities and potentially limiting access to tournaments by other teams. When teams are away at tournaments and ice needs to returned, it can affect SGRA's ability to procure ice in the future.

This policy outline rules for tournament attendance for each season.

## **SCOPE**

All teams registered in Spruce Grove Ringette Association

## **DEFINITIONS**

Tournaments are defined as those sanctioned by the provincial sport association (Ringette Alberta).

Two or more exhibition games requiring overnight travel and/or absence from two or more practice days in a single weekend may be considered a tournament under this policy. It is required that teams notify their Divisional Director prior to attending these games.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

As such, each SGRA team may attend a MAXIMUM of:

- Active Start – 3 tournaments per season;
- U10 – Step 1, 2, 3 – 3 tournaments per season
- U12 - 4 tournaments per season
- U14 - 5 tournaments per season
- U16 - 5 tournaments per season
- U19 - 6 tournaments per season

These maximums include the SGRA Sweetheart Tournament(s) and excludes league playoffs, provincial play downs, Provincial Championships, Western Canadian Championships and National Championships.

The SGRA Sweetheart Tournament attendance is mandatory. The only exception is when the date interferes with the provincial play downs or provincial championships.

### **APPLICATION FOR TOURNAMENTS**

To prevent competition between SGRA teams for tournaments and for divisions with more than one team at a level (e.g. U12C, U14B), Division Directors will facilitate equity among SGRA teams through communication.

### **GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS OUTSIDE OF ALBERTA**

For games played outside Alberta, team staff must notify the Division Director at least two (2) weeks prior to these tournament/exhibition game(s). SGRA will notify Ringette Alberta and proper travel permits will be obtained, when applicable. Travel Permits ensure appropriate Ringette Alberta insurance is in effect. In absence of the Division Director, the travel notification can be provided to any member of the Executive.

### **COMPLIANCE AND CONSEQUENCES**

Conditions which may prevent compliance to the above requirements must be brought to the attention of their Divisional Director by the head coach or team manager prior to accepting and attending additional tournaments. Requests for exceptions to the above requirements may be brought to the SGRA Board for consideration and decision. The decision is final and not appealable.

Failure to adhere to this policy will result in disciplinary action under the SGRA Code of Conduct and the SGRA Disciplinary Policy, which may include removal of practice ice and/or suspension of coach(es) or other sanctions deemed appropriate.

During tournaments and exhibitions game, disciplinary actions from Ringette Alberta and Black Gold League will apply.