



Top 10 questions about the U14AA program

1) What are the benefits of house Ringette to AA?

While the house program has helped to develop your daughter's ringette game, the AA program is designed to take your ringette player to the next level. The level of competition coupled with the top quality coaching and instruction, will enhance your child's ability to be the best they can be. The AA program will expose your child to higher levels of competition against the top U14 AA players in Western Canada and the best U16A players in the Thompson Okanagan Ringette League (TORL). The program is also designed as a stepping stone for your daughter to eventually play in the Canadian Ringette Championships.

2) Are there Nationals for U14AA?

Unfortunately, there are not nationals at the U14AA level. Nationals do not start until U16AA but the journey to compete in the Nations, starts much sooner. It is important that teams and players develop early so that they are prepared to play against the best competition in Canada. Teams from Ontario, Quebec and Alberta start at an early age and have traditionally been the powerhouses of Ringette in Canada. While these provinces may have an abundance of players to choose from, it does not always mean success. In fact, the 2012 U16AA National Champions were from New Brunswick and the 2013 U16AA National Champions were from BC. Those players worked hard from U14 to get to the level that they won at.

3) How many ice times a week will AA be?

Because U14 players can double card (play both house and AA), it is realistic to expect on average 2 ice times per week (likely 1 practice and 1 game). The ice times and locations will vary.

4) Where will the U14AA teams play their games and practices?

The U14AA teams will be in the U16 division and can play games against any of the U16 teams within TORL. Games, practice times and locations will vary. Please be aware that games or practices will be held from Salmon Arm to West Kelowna and may include Enderby, Lumby and Armstrong. We will do our best to have a schedule that has the least amount of conflicts to the U14 house schedule as possible.

5) How many players per team?

While the exact number is difficult to determine at this time, the vision of the programs is to develop as many players as possible. If the caliber of players is sufficient enough, we will go with a full roster of 15 skaters and 2 goalies. It is also important to note that by going with larger rosters, there is less chance of issues with game conflicts. If there is interest and available ice, there may be a U14 Development Program for those interested in the AA program that were not selected for the U14AA team.



6) What happens if Association House conflicts with AA?

This is a common issue that comes up every year. As the U14 division allows players to double card, there will be times when house and AA conflict. While this can make for a hectic driving schedule, there are a few rules that may make it a little easier.

Rules of Thumb:

- House games and tournaments will take precedence over AA
- AA games will take precedence over House practices
- House practices take precedence over AA practices
- AA tournaments will take precedence over House games/practices

Please note that while the TORL AA ice scheduler will do their best to alleviate conflicts, it is almost impossible to schedule around all of them. While we feel that players can benefit more from their AA practices, we do not want to create an environment where players feel they need to choose between their 2 teams. We encourage open communication between the TORL AA program and the House teams.

7) How many tournaments will the U14AA teams attend?

TORL U14AA will likely attend 1-2 tournaments during the season. In addition, it is expected that the team will attend Provincials and Westerns.

The tournaments normally do not interfere with house tournaments.

8) Will there be any dryland or power skating with the AA program?

The dryland, power skating and nutritional program is part of the AA program. It will be at the Coach's discretion.

9) What is the potential cost for the U14AA program this year?

The estimated cost is approximately \$500 on top of home Association fees as players will be playing on 2 teams. There may be additional fees as well which will be determined once the team is formed.

10) Need more information??? Please email torlaaprogram@gmail.com.