

Team Selection Process

Team selection for Berwick and District Ringette Association will follow the guidelines for Long Term Athlete Development as set out by Ringette Canada.

The primary goal of the team selection process for non-tiered divisions and tiered divisions with more than one team in the Association is to develop teams that are balanced. When Berwick & District Ringette enters more than one team within an age group, the teams must be evenly balanced in order to comply with the current non competitive structure of the Central Region Ringette League. Ideally, all games between Berwick & District Ringette teams should end in a tie. However, a difference in game, league, tournament, and provincial results is to be expected when more than one team is entered within an age group. In addition, intangibles such as player growth and development, and team chemistry, which cannot be predicted at the start of a season, may come into play later in the season. The goal of team selection is to balance the teams as much as possible prior to the start of the season, with no subsequent adjustment after the season begins.

Team selection for all Berwick & District Ringette teams should not only be fair but be seen to be fair by the league, executive members, association coaches, parents, and players.

By transparency, Berwick & District Ringette Association will strive for a policy that is clearly understood, documented, and free from any threats to achieving the principles of balance and fairness.

By community, we refer to the community of players within the Berwick & District Ringette Association organization.

If these principles are appropriately enacted, then player development, both collectively and individually will be enhanced.

All players selected to a Berwick & District Ringette team in the divisions U10-U19 must have made a payment on their registration or committed to a payment plan with the Treasurer before being added to the roster of that team.

Team Selection Committee

Teams will be determined by a team selection committee composed of the following: Head Coach representing each team within a specific division, the President of Berwick & District Ringette Association.

Team Selection Criteria

Team Selection for non-tiered divisions and tiered divisions with more than one team in the Berwick & District Ringette Association will be based on the following criteria:

- Equality of teams based on level of skill
- Level of skill of individual player

- Equality regarding the number of new players to the division

Team Selection for tiered divisions with only one team in the Berwick & District Ringette Association will be based on the following criteria:

- Level of skill of the individual player (determined by considering both individual basic skills and game skills)
- Commitment level of the individual player

Teams will be capped at a maximum of 17 players, this is 15 skaters and 2 goalies. Player/family requests will only be considered in extenuating circumstances and must be made in advance of the balancing sessions. Registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis and the maximum per team observed. A waiting list will be set up for any players registering over and above the maximum number of players per team.

Role of Coaches

Our coaches are a vital resource, and are integral to the success of our programs. Coaches within an age group are likely to have in-depth knowledge of players' abilities and weaknesses from the players' previous season's game and practice performance. For this reason, they are critical for the development of player ratings. Selection is based upon coaches having their children within the age group, so that modifications may be necessary for non-parent coaches.

Player Movement

Ringette Nova Scotia/ Central Region Ringette League guidelines, including the RNS Exceptional Player Policy, will be adhered to with regard to all general movement of players.

In some seasons, it may be necessary for Berwick and District Ringette Association to move players up in order to balance or form a team. The viewpoint and opinion of the player, the parents or legal guardians and the coaches who are involved will be obtained before proceeding. All involved plus the Berwick & District Ringette Association executive must agree that this is in the best interest of the player and the Berwick and District Ringette Association before any movement takes place.

Player requests for movement to a lower division will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Registration numbers allow the movement;
- Skill level of player is to be assessed by previous/receiving coach and one objective coach
- The request is made in writing by the player's parent/guardian and given to the Registrar by the registration date or prior to the announcement of the team selection;
- No requests will be accepted after the first league game.

Player requests to be moved from a lower division to a higher division will be considered at the time of registration based on the following criteria:

- The RNS/Central Region Ringette League guidelines to be adhered to with regard to the general movement of players
- Whether Berwick & District Ringette Association's registrations numbers allow the movement;
- Whether the movement is in the best interest of Berwick & District Ringette Association and the player;
- Skill level of player is to be assessed by previous/receiving coach and one objective coach;
- The request is made in writing by the player's parent/guardian and given to the Registrar by the registration date; and
- In cases involving a conflict, the interests of the older age group take precedence.
- Players requesting movement to a higher division must be in the second year of their age division and must be evaluated in their own age division.

The Berwick & District Ringette Association will also consider the player's maturity level and whether her development will benefit from playing in the higher division.

Player Call Ups and Affiliated Players

Affiliation means that a player can be called up from their regular team to play on a higher level team within the same association on an as needed basis. The purpose of affiliation is to allow a coach to field a team for a game, not to strengthen the team. No coach is required to affiliate players if they do not wish to do so.

Affiliation is conditional on the player, parents or legal guardians, coaches and Berwick & District Ringette Association agreeing with the affiliation.

An affiliate player's main responsibility is to their own team. If there is a scheduling conflict the player must attend their own ice time.

In recreational divisions, Players should be called up on a rotational basis, whenever possible, to encourage and maximize player development.

The maximum number of players a team is able to have dressed and listed on a game sheet while using affiliated skaters is 12.

If a team has both skaters and a goalie as affiliated player's, they are able to have 13 players listed on the game sheet.

A team can only have a maximum of 5 affiliated players for 1 game.

After December 31 once a player has been called up 3 times, that player is no longer eligible to be called up again that season, unless by special permission from Central Region Ringette League and Ringette Nova Scotia (waived for goalies U14 and above).

If there is no option for affiliated/call up players, a team is able to Call Across from the same age group and division in their home association.

Play within the provincial championships will fall under the Affiliate Player rules governed by Ringette Nova Scotia.