

HALIFAX HURRICANES RINGETTE ASSOCIATION

Policy Manual

Subject:	ATHLETE AFFILIATION POLICY	Policy No. 10.0
Issued By:	HHRA Board of Directors	Date of Issue: 30/09/2024
Approved By:	HHRA Board of Directors	Revision Date:
Form(s) Required:		

10.1 PURPOSE:

- 10.1.1 The purpose of an association-specific Athlete Affiliation Policy is to outline the procedures through which athletes are assigned to their affiliate teams, and the rights and expectations of athletes, families and coaches have with respect to the affiliation process.

10.2 DEFINITIONS:

- 10.2.1 Affiliation refers to the process by which athletes at a lower tier or division are included on the roster of a team at higher tier or division, for those athletes to be called upon to replace absent, sick, injured or suspended athletes as required.

10.3 PRINCIPLES:

- 10.3.1 Halifax Hurricanes Ringette Association (HHRA) will adhere to the principles, guidelines and requirements outlined in the Ringette Nova Scotia's Player Call Up/Affiliate Matrix, [Ringette Nova Scotia's Team and Player Registration Rules Policy \(5.65\)](#) and Central Region Ringette League's Affiliated Players Policy (3.1) any future revisions thereof.

10.4 AFFILIATION OPT-OUT:

- 10.4.1 Athletes will have the opportunity to decide whether they would like to be excluded from the affiliation process. After deciding to opt-out of the affiliation process, the athlete will not be affiliated to any teams during the season.

10.5 ASSIGNMENT OF AFFILIATES:

- 10.5.1 The Director of Competitive Play or Director of Recreation, depending on the team, or their designate, overseen by the President or their designate, will create the affiliation lists after the teams have been formed for the season.

- 10.5.2 All athletes in U10 to U16 will be affiliated to one of the HHRA teams at a higher tier or division.
- 10.5.3 Some athletes may be requested to affiliate to Tier 1 Teams (U12-U16 athletes) or Tier 2 Teams (U14-U16 athletes). Unless impacting the viability of HHRA teams, these requests will be honoured.
- 10.5.4 Full Time Goaltenders (FTG) can be affiliated to two teams.
- 10.5.5 Affiliate athletes are assigned in an equitable manner, whenever possible, based on the player evaluation rankings.
- 10.5.6 Head Coaches (HC) may request up to three (3) particular affiliate athletes, but assignment of those is never guaranteed.
- 10.5.7 Whenever appropriate, a younger sibling will be affiliated to their older sibling's team.
- 10.5.8 Athletes or their families may not request to be or not to be affiliated to a particular team, unless for extenuating circumstances, and approved by the Board of Directors.
- 10.5.9 Once reviewed and approved by the President, the affiliation lists are provided to the team's HC and Team Manager. At that time, the assignment of affiliates is considered final, and no further changes will be made.
- 10.5.10 Only athletes listed on a team's affiliate list may be used, with the exception of goaltenders, which can be called upon as a Replacement Goaltender under specific circumstances as outlined in Central Region Ringette League's Affiliated Player Policy (3.1.5)

10.6 COMMUNICATION:

- 10.6.1 The HC or Team Manager is responsible for reaching out to the affiliates to inform them of their assignment, and to discuss and expectations for the upcoming season.
- 10.6.2 Teams are encouraged to have open and proactive communication with the affiliates, their families and the coaches of the athlete's full-time team.

10.7 USE OF AFFILIATE ATHLETES:

- 10.7.1 Coaches are expected to familiarize themselves with Ringette Nova Scotia’s Team and Player Registration Rules Policy (5.65) and Central Regional Ringette League Affiliated Players Policy (3.1), in particular with the aspects of when affiliate athletes may be called upon.
- 10.7.2 Teams are strongly encouraged to utilize their affiliates whenever possible, but keeping in mind the aforementioned rules.
- 10.7.3 While the opportunity to affiliate should be equitable, it is ultimately up to the coaches to decide if and when affiliates will be required, and which athletes will be called upon.
- 10.7.4 The needs of the athlete’s full-time team **ALWAYS** take precedence over those of their affiliate team. As a matter of courtesy, coaches of the athlete’s affiliate team should confer with the coaches of their full-time team any time there is an intent to utilize an athlete as an affiliate.
- 10.7.5 Athletes and their families have the right to decline an opportunity to affiliate without any reasons given.

10.8 RELATED POLICIES:

- N/A

10.9 POLICY REVIEW:

Revision Date	Revision	Reason
30/09/2024	Major changes throughout	Approved in season by the HHRA Board of Directors.