

# NCRA NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 2022

## SEASON START-UP

### Tryouts

Tryouts begin September 8<sup>th</sup>. The schedule has yet to be finalized, generally the competitive groupings will start the earliest, with the balanced teams beginning later in September. To make sure you're getting the information in a timely manner, we will be using email, the website and Facebook to communicate times and groupings. If you have any issues with communications being received, please reach out immediately.

### Registration Payments

With our new registration app this year we offered promo codes instead of what was formerly an automated discount in the past. If you have any concerns about the fees please reach out immediately to the Registrar. Reversely, if any promo codes were used in error the Registrar will reach out directly to balance the account.

### Ice Times/Rinks

NCRA has secured additional ice times this season to accurately reflect our membership numbers as determined by HRM. This includes ice at RBC, HRM 4-pad, Lebrun and Sackville Sports Stadium. Many of our additional ice times have fallen on the weekend – please be aware that we will be working hard to create as balanced a schedule as possible, taking multiple factors into consideration.

### Development

NCRA offers an additional opportunity for players in the U10 and U12 divisions to enhance their skating skills (aka "power skating"). For an additional fee, players can register for this program – which is held Sunday mornings at Lebrun. This year, NCRA has partnered with LandonEdge Skating Consultants to provide the program. Unlike past years, LandonEdge and NCRA will encourage U10 and U12 coaches to take part in the on-ice program with their players. This will provide opportunity for coaches to gain knowledge on the mechanics of skating that can be carried over into team NCRA practices and games. Limited spots remain; you can register via the RAMP season registration link by choosing the Development option.

### Goalies

Goalies remain in high demand within NCRA. We offer incentives to players who chose to play the position for the whole season, and do have gear-lending available upon request and availability. NCRA is also hoping to provide some 'come try' sessions this seasons to encourage our players to try the position and promote the option of dedicating to the position for a season.

## VOLUNTEERS

### Coaches

Coaching interest officially closed August 9<sup>th</sup>, however openings remain. Understanding many parents are likely awaiting the results of assessments/try-outs, we encourage you to identify now to the Coach Coordinator if you are interested. Having a pool of interest already in hand when teams are formed can help us get the teams out on the ice as quickly possible.

We encourage and support all females interested in volunteering as on-ice coaches. Our goal is to have a trained or certified female coach on every bench.



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## Children's Ringette Coordinator Needed

We are working to prepare a program outline and policy for our Children's Ringette Program and will share it as soon as it is complete. NCRA follows the Ringette Canada guidelines for Fundamentals 1 and 2, along with the Long Term Athlete Development plan for Active Start.

NCRA is actively seeking a Children's Ringette Coordinator for the upcoming season. This position reports to both the Coach Coordinator and the Athlete Development Coordinator. This position is not a board position. This volunteer does not need to have any skating experience; it is an off-ice role. This role is responsible to coordinate with the Head Coaches of the three levels of our children's programming: Active Start, Fundamentals 1 and Fundamentals 2 to maintain and promote a Children's Ringette Program that is consistent and follows the guidelines laid out by Ringette Canada and NCRA in respect to early development. Interested volunteers should contact [ncracoachcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:ncracoachcoordinator@gmail.com)

## Junior Coaching Program

We are encouraged that we have already received a lot of interest from our NCRA players in participating in our Junior Coaching program. A reminder that you must be 14 years old to participate in the program; if you are not 14 at the start of the season, the program allows you to join once you do turn 14 up to December 15. You can find the full policy on the website, or reach out directly to the Coach Coordinator if you are interested.

## **BOARD UPDATES**

The executive has met virtually as a whole May 30, June 20, July 11 and August 15<sup>th</sup>. Board business conducted at those meetings and in-between include:

- **NEW** Junior Coach Policy;
- **NEW** Jersey Commitment Form;
- **NEW** Coach Evaluation Form;
- **UPDATED** Code of Conduct;
- **UPDATED** Concussion Code of Conduct for Coaches and Team Staff;
- **UPDATED** Concussion Code of Conduct for Athletes and Parents;
- **NEW** Concussion Policy;
- **NEW** handbook for coaches;
- **UPDATED** handbook for managers;
- **NEW** handbook for parents;
- successfully secured additional ice times;
- completed updates from AGM on bylaws, operations manual and polices;
- approved the purchase of new coaching gear bags for this season;
- held a successful Come Try Ringette session on June 25<sup>th</sup> with another partnership event August 28<sup>th</sup>;
- launched a new website platform and registration application;
- lead a summer ringette program option;
- **NEW** 18+ competitive guidelines

