

## ERC AA Hotel & Travel Policy

### • Club Rational:

- Club Unity, Team Costs, Family Costs, Recruitment, and Common Sense
- Properly co-ordinated travel is a critical component of club success and team experience
- Team Safety is the most important aspect of club travel
- Nutrition for the AA athlete is critical in team performance
- Shared Team Rooms and Player Coach Rooms would have saved the club families significant money. Shared bussing, where reasonable, would double that savings
- Families that go to the same ringette tournaments reasonably expect to stay in the same hotel; failure to accommodate that may adversely impact recruitment as well as player retention.

### • ERC Projections:

- Families with Multiple kids potentially playing in the Club at U19 or younger (assuming a total of 51 players over 3 teams) taking into account that no one is guaranteed a spot.
- 2014/2015 – 4 families or 8 kids (16%)
- 2015/2016 – 9 families or 19 kids on multiple teams (37%)
- When you take into account the Esso Golden Ring and families with Federation and Club kids these percentages go up substantially. Example: at Golden Ring this season, 9 of 32 Club players (28%) on U14AA and U16AA had siblings in the same hotel. Next year the numbers may well exceed 50%

## POLICY

### 1) A Travel Coordinator will be appointed whose duties include the following:

- a. Locate Hotel and Busses for upcoming year's tournaments (not all tournaments require a bus), including:
  - i. Saskatoon (Bernadette Price Memorial Tournament)
  - ii. Lacombe (Ice Breaker)
  - iii. Calgary (Esso Golden Ring)
  - iv. B.C, Manitoba, Ontario, or Quebec (if the U16AA and U19AA are in one of those tournaments together)
  - v. Provincials (when in Central Alberta or Calgary)

- vi. Westerns (U14 AA only)
- vii. CRCs (U16 AA, U19AA & WAM! only)
- b. Ensure Advance Reservation of hotel rooms and busses for the above AA tournaments including the signing of all contracts and payment or down payment of securing hotels and buses.
- c. Assign Hotel rooms to all three AA teams (and WAM! for CRCs) including ensuring or enforcing as much as possible that players of the same family are booked into the same hotel. Players should also stay with their teams rather than being asked to choose one athlete's team over another. Practically speaking, this will generally mean booking the same hotel for all Club teams where ever possible.
- d. To ensure or coordinate that all Club teams stay at the same hotel as the Federation team during the Esso Golden Ring if there are family members playing on the AA teams as well as Federation teams.
- e. Handle all complaints related to the hotels and buses and report findings to the board.
- f. Have all hotel and bus bookings completed and to be presented at the August board meeting.

## 2) Requirements of a Hotel

- a. Proximity to arena in larger centres other than Esso Golden Ring and avoidance of Red Deer for Lacombe tournament due to frequently poor highway conditions
- b. Complimentary breakfast included
- c. One or two kitchenette's per AA team. U19AA would have first choice at getting this room type if there were not enough for all teams
- d. Fridges or mini fridges in all rooms
- e. Conference Rooms (at no charge or a reduced rate if possible) for all three ERC teams, to share wherever reasonably possible -cost to be split between all three teams
- f. Ability to prepare or serve food in Conference rooms if reasonably possible or the ability to Cater in food
- g. At least enough double queen beds to accommodate team rooms where required, coaches rooms can be shared with other coaches from the other club teams if possible & separate bedrooms for fathers traveling with their daughters
- h. Ability to accommodate a family of five
- i. Coaches have separate accommodation unless parent of athlete on the team
- j. Fitness Facility
- k. Ability to accommodate all-ERC teams as well as the Federation teams (Esso Golden Ring only).
- l. Hotel room at no charge for bus driver when applicable & if possible (use of same bus company may also allow drivers to share rooms).

## ERC Travel Guidelines:

- a. No Plane travel for U14AA unless the team makes Westerns. Bus travel can be expected for Saskatoon and possibly Regina. Plane travel may be necessary for Westerns if Vancouver, Winnipeg or Regina is the destination.
- b. Share bus when reasonably possible
- c. All members of a team are expected to travel to all Alberta tournaments and Saskatoon, including provincials. All members of a team are expected to travel to CRCs at U16AA and U19AA, if the team qualifies (and often all teams from Alberta will qualify). All members of a team are expected to travel to Westerns if U14AA qualifies (and often 4 teams will qualify from Alberta). For other tournaments, subject to flight restrictions for U14AA, all members of the Edmonton Ringette Club are expected to attend any other tournament that the team votes on to attend at the outset of the year.
- d. As the number of teams that may qualify for Westerns or CRCs varies from year to year, confirmation of attendance is mandatory before a player is selected for an ERC team. Failure to confirm attendance shall result in that player not being selected for an ERC team. Any player or coach who fails to attend a tournament, other than for medical reasons, may have her status reviewed by the ERC board and may, subject to board review, not be eligible to play (or coach, as the case may be) for the ERC in the following season.
- e. Affiliates should likewise confirm availability to attend CRCs, Westerns, or other tournaments where affiliate rules contemplate more than 11 skaters or where the affiliate is a goaltender.
- f. Where an athlete does not attend a tournament that the team attends, the athlete shall nevertheless share in team expenses for that tournament (example, bus, coach room, team room, athlete nutrition). The player shall not incur cost for expenses not expended (example, flight, athletes rooms decreased by 1 because several do not attend).
- g. Weather Policy: The ERC will provide unqualified support for any coach that initiates cancellation of a game due to unsafe road conditions. Any fines levied against that coach will be absorbed by the club.
- h. Weather conditions prompting cancellation will vary, and the circumstances under which a team will travel will vary (depending on time available, distance, tournament play). However, in the case of a Black Gold League game or other game in Central Alberta that is not a tournament game, a current highway warning showing red on a substantial portion of QE2 whether current, or anticipated during the time of travel, shall be proper grounds for game cancellation. The final team decision shall be that of the head coach; however, no athlete shall be penalized for choosing not to attend a game outside the Edmonton area due to adverse weather conditions.
- i. Absolutely no alcohol shall be consumed on an ERC team bus.