

Information for U12-aged participants

Ringette BC is pleased to announce changes coming for the U12 division as part of the new 2019-2023 Strategic Plan. Specific information regarding implementation timelines will be released shortly.

Background

The 2019-2023 Strategic Plan seeks to achieve Ringette BC's Vision, Mission and Values. As part of the implementation and road map for the next five years of the Strategic Plan, Ringette BC has released the *Athlete Experience Pathways* report, which provides background and explains the changes to the competition framework and athlete pathways.

Under the new competition framework, U12-aged athletes will play on a U12 Club Division Team with the option of additional development opportunities through the U12 Competition Introduction Program.

U12 Club Division

The Club Pathway is focused on sport for life, long-term athlete development and long-term participant development.

Key Characteristics:

- ◎ U12 Community-based "Club" teams will be formed around skill development, friendships and age groups in each Club Association
- ◎ Teams are eligible to participate in the Ringette U12 Year-End Event
 - All teams that commit to attend, will participate
 - Committing to Attend is optional and will be up to the team
 - Championship format with gold, silver and bronze medals being introduced in 2020
- ◎ Formal player evaluations will be conducted using the standardized Ringette BC U12 evaluation criteria
 - Teams in the same age division will be balanced to create more opportunities for meaningful competition under the competition structure
 - Teams are formed using evaluation criteria and Coach input OR by player draft between Head Coaches.
- ◎ Teams will be pooled for League play and Sanctioned events based on team ordinal



- ◎ A new, more flexible Player Pick Up policy for league play, tournaments and U12 Year-End event
 - players can be picked up to play in five leagues games *and* one tournament; and
 - teams may participate with 50% plus one rostered players provided that the players picked-up have similar ordinals to the players unable to attend.

U12 Competition Introduction Program

The U12 *Train to Train* Competition Introduction Program offers U12-aged participants the opportunity for further skill development through an introductory experience to the competitive “Zone Team” pathway before deciding whether to opt-in at U14.

Objectives

- Providing additional opportunities for athletes to increase their skills;
- Introducing athletes to a higher pace of play; and
- Enhancing and complementing U12 Club Association team programs.

Program Basics

For the first half of the program, November to December, all athletes train and participate together as a group. Coaches can create smaller squads for training and exhibition play. During the second half of the season, January to February, players will be drafted into teams and assigned Coaches.

Key Characteristics

- ◎ 14-week program developed by Ringette BC and run by the Leagues
 - Program wraps up in February following the Pacific Ring Tournament
 - Approximately four to six hours/month (on and off ice sessions)
- ◎ All interested athletes registered in the U12 division with their Club Association are permitted to participate.
 - Registration is open to both female and male athletes
 - Participants must be registered to a U12 Club Association team
- ◎ Focus on skill development, ringette specific skills (shooting, passing, receiving the ring), physical literacy, and basic ringette strategies including both offensive and defensive tactics at a higher pace.
- ◎ Management of the overall program costs including facility rentals, officials, coaching development and other costs will be the responsibility of the League
- ◎ Individual team costs will be handled by a Team Manager (after team formation)
- ◎ Costs of the program will be set in advance of registration

