

# KITCHENER RINGETTE ASSOCIATION (KRA)

## Provincial Tryout Policy

### Preamble

Tryouts at the Provincial level are open to all players from all associations.

A Kitchener resident is a player whose principle residence is within the jurisdiction of City of Kitchener. Kitchener is considered the player's home association.

Any player who played on any KRA team in the just completed season on a release is defined as an association player. KRA is considered the player's current association. An out of area player is a player whose principle place of residence is outside the geographical jurisdiction of the City of Kitchener. The rules that govern Provincial Level Tryouts are set by WORL and ORA. The Dates and Process set prior to each season by WORL must be followed by KRA. Link to WORL process: [AA/A Process](#)

### Player Intents:

Players must register their intents to attend tryouts as per the WORL Process. The list of players that register their intents is made public typically after Provincials Tournament weekend around the 3rd week of March. Link to the public summary: [Player Intents](#)

### Association Team Declaration:

The KRA Provincial Convenor will review the available information about player intents, existing home & current players plus have conversation with WORL & surrounding association Provincial Convenors to develop a recommendation of which teams KRA should submit for "Willing to Host" to the WORL league. The recommendations should be made in writing to the KRA Board of Directors for approval or modification. Once approved the Provincial Convenor must follow the WORL process for submission to the WORL evaluation committee as per the prescribed dates prescribed in the WORL process: [AA/A Process](#) Once the WORL evaluation committee approves the "Willing to Host" teams, only then can tryouts be posted publically on KRA or WRRRA web pages.

### Tryouts Events:

Typically, 3 to 4 tryouts per team will be set by the Provincial Convenor. More tryouts may be added if deemed necessary by the Provincial Convenor. All tryouts must be communicated to WORL and posted on KRA and WRRRA Web sites.

Tryout costs can change on a year by year basis. However, they are generally around \$15 per tryout. All KRA players who did not play ringette in 2016/2017 are required to register to have insurance coverage so they must bring a \$25 cheque to the first tryout paid to Kitchener Ringette Association Inc. The \$25 cheque will be put towards their registration or returned if the player does not end up playing for KRA in that season.

The first & second tryouts are "Open" which means any player may attend. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or beyond tryouts are considered "by invitation only" unless otherwise noted in the posting. It is at the discretion of the Provincial Convenor and the Evaluators if they want to arrange Exhibition Games with other Associations. The Exhibition game is considered a Tryout.

On-ice experience:

Tryout Session- drills and scrimmage: At the start of the tryout session players will be directed to take the ice. Players will be asked to warm up by circling the ice a few times. The on-ice instructor will then signal with a whistle to all players to assemble for instructions. The on-ice instructor will give instructions for the first drill, often with a partner who demonstrates the drill. Players are then directed to participate in the drills in a sequential and organized way. Players are often sorted by colour and number for these drills to make it easier for evaluators to assess them in order.

Tryout Session- Exhibition Game: Exhibition Games allow KRA to evaluate players in a “real” game format. Upon arrival at the Exhibition Game arena, players should check in with the Coach at the registration desk to receive a numbered jersey. Players will then be assigned to a dressing room. All players should be dressed and ready in full equipment 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. At that time, either the Coach or KRA Provincial Convenor (along with a female monitor if required) will come into the dressing room to talk about player position assignment, lines, and expectations for game play. Players should listen attentively and ask questions to clarify any points they don’t understand. Players will then be directed to take the ice and do a short warm up, circling the ice. Players then assemble on the bench and game play begins.

During an Exhibition Game, KRA often asks parents or other volunteers to take on the following positions: Timekeeper, Scorekeeper (optional – not always needed), Shot Clock Operator, Bench staff – Trainer, Door operator, coach, assistant coach.

Communication of Tryout Attendance:

The Provincial Convenor is responsible to notify the Player Tracking Coordinator (Peter Westlaken) within 24 hours of completion of all players that have attended all tryouts, been given "Offers to Play" or "Roster Spot Not Offered"

### Player Notifications:

The Provincial Convenor is responsible to email out the invitations to the "Invitation only" tryouts. The potential Head Coach can also assist in this process.

All players who are not being invited back should be given the "Roster Spot Not Offered Letter" within 24 hours of this notification if not at the same time as the invitation emails. It is important that all players who are not going to be offered a spot be notified as soon in the process as possible to give them a chance to attend other Association tryouts. KRA will try to make calls or send emails as quickly as possible after each session, to avoid stress and anxiety of the players. Any parent or player who wants detailed feedback about a player’s tryout performance can make that request, and the Coach or Convenor will contact them with further feedback or details.

The Provincial Convenor should assist if requested by the KRA player/family to get permission to attend other Association tryouts with getting an "invitation to attend" any non "open" tryouts by contacting the other Association Provincial Convenor.

Once the Provincial Convener has firmed up the status of each player with the potential Head Coach then it is their responsibility to send out final the "Roster Spot Not Offered Letter" or "Offer To Play Letter" by email.

WORL Process AA/A Process provides the forms for "Roster Spot Not Offered Letter" or "Offer To Play Letter" that are to be used. Please note that it is expected that entire form be completed for each player.

### Association Evaluators:

The Provincial Convener is responsible to select evaluators that have reasonable understanding of the skills required to play at the level being evaluated. Past year's coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, managers, adult players, outside Association Executive Members or parents of older players with no conflict of interest are ideal candidates. The Provincial Convener will also be an evaluator. Evaluators are to use the KRA Tryout Evaluation form which is based on Player Characteristics

Kitchener Ringette makes every attempt to ensure that the volunteers who are participating in the tryout process are unbiased, meaning they don't have a child who is trying out for the team. Evaluators must let the Provincial Convener know if such a relationship exists. That being said, there are times when this is not possible or practical, based on schedules, availability of volunteers and safety concerns. For example, in an Exhibition Game, the preference is that we have Bench staff that are qualified and certified to be on the bench for the age group in question. Sometimes this means that parents of players trying out will be asked to participate as a Bench staff member, if needed. The safety of the players is our primary concern, and we don't want to have a situation where there is an injury or some kind of scenario which the Bench staff are not qualified to address.

Kitchener Ringette is proud to have many dedicated and talented volunteers who serve us by donating hundreds of hours of their time throughout the season and during tryouts. The expectation is that during the tryout process all volunteers will be treated with respect, and any abuse of volunteers will not be tolerated.

### On Ice Tryout Staff:

In general, the Potential/Selected Coaching Staff should be on the ice running all drills. The Potential Head Coach can request others to help as needed. If no Head Coach has been identified the Provincial Convener can work with the Coaching Director to ask another person to run the on ICE drills. This person will be part of the Association evaluators

### Team Makeup:

Provincial Teams have a wide range of possible makeups, generally Provincial teams should target to have 11 to 13 skaters and 1 to 2 Goalies. Makeup is recommended by Association evaluators to the Provincial Convener. The Provincial Convener can work with the Selected Coaching staff to tune the proposed offerings. Consideration of team mix between 1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> year or 3<sup>rd</sup> Year players should be reviewed to allow for future success of the team if the opportunity allows. Once offers to play or releases are complete by the Provincial Convener (By Email or in Person) the final team rosters are to be given to the WORL/CORL League. Team Composition must meet the requirement of the WORL process: AA/A Process. The Provincial Convener must submit the final Provincial Team player list to the Registrar, President and Treasurer once available.

### Out of Area Players:

No minimum/maximum number of out of area players per team will be set. WORL/CORL or ORA will set such guidelines. The WORL Process sets the minimum required home/current players as part of the: [AA/A Process](#)

Out of Area players can rank in any position by the Association appointed evaluators to be considered for a position on a team.

It is generally expected that if the Home Association players “Rank” the same as or similar to the Out of Area player that the Home Association player should be made the offer to play.