

## Beaumont Ringette Association and Leduc Ringette Association Partnership 2025-2026 Season FAQ

The Beaumont Ringette Association (“**BRA**”) and Leduc Ringette Association (“**LRA**”) are excited to continue our partnership for the 2025-2026 season. This will be the second season of a BRA and LRA partnership! We will be taking the positive aspects learned from the previous season and carrying it through to the upcoming season along with many improvements focusing on the benefit for our athletes.

By working together, we can ensure that our athletes have a fair opportunity to play, develop and enjoy the sport we love. This FAQ outlines what the partnership means and how it may affect your family.

Q. What does a BRA and LRA partnership mean for its members and athletes?

A. This partnership means that we will pool players from BRA and LRA and ensure that each athlete has a place on a balanced team with teammates at a similar skill range. This **does not** include our younger age divisions of Active Start, U10 Step 1 and 2.

Q. Why does BRA and LRA want to partner for the 2025-2026 season?

A. Ultimately, the intent of the partnership is to help both associations to create appropriately-sized and skill balanced teams, without having to overage/underage players, have players at the wrong skill level, etc.

Q. What are the benefits of a partnership?

A. The partnership will allow athletes to play amongst teammates at their same age group and skill level. This will ensure player safety, development and will support growth and competitiveness! Friendships will grow and new relationships will be made!

Q. How could the partnership impact my athlete?

A. Athletes in the **U10 Step 3 to U19** divisions will be considered for the partnership. This means that your athlete may play outside of your home association *Example: register your athlete with BRA (home association) but the team your athlete has been placed on could be with LRA for the season.*

Q. How will teams be formed?

A. Evaluations will be combined between the two associations. All data collected from the UAA and scrimmages will be compiled and a score developed for each athlete based on the weighting of UAA vs scrimmage for the division the athlete is in (per RAB policy). The Evaluations Committee will meet, evaluation data will be reviewed and athletes will be grouped based on their results and our evaluation policy. At times, athlete’s prior year coaches may be called upon for more information. The Evaluation Policy will be available on the BRA and LRA websites, but will be similar to existing policies. Exact timelines haven’t been determined, but evaluations may start earlier than normal (but

not earlier than the Tuesday after the long weekend in September), and team announcements may occur later than normal.

Q. Who will be responsible for creating teams and selecting coaches?

A. A joint Evaluations Committee will be created, with mixed representation from both BRA and LRA board members. This committee will create teams together that will be hosted at each association. The committee will also be responsible for coach selection.

Q. How will it be determined which association hosts the teams?

A. We aim to have representation in each division for both associations. We will try to ensure player balance and make our best effort to reduce unnecessary travel, but locations of teams can't be predicted at this time. The Evaluations Committee will consider several criteria when determining which association will host the teams, including representation at each division, revenues for each association, player balance, etc.

Q. How will I be notified once the teams are made?

A. Once the teams are made, parents/ guardians will receive a welcoming phone call from their new coaching staff and/or BRA/LRA board. During this call, your player will be welcomed to their new team and you will be introduced to the Head Coach and discuss your athlete's division/level and what association will be hosting your athlete for the season.

Q. What if your athlete is placed on a team outside of your hometown and may be facing travel restrictions?

A. The ringette community is a strong and supportive community! If you were to need assistance with travel, always communicate that with your coaches/ team parents! Ride sharing is a great way to share the load of travel.

Q. Would athletes be transferred (released) permanently?

A. No, this will be a *temporary* release for the 2025-2026 season only. You will register with your home association in the following season.

Q. What about fees and volunteer hours?

A. You will be required to pay fees based on the association you are placed in. Please reference each association's website for the fee guideline. You will follow the policies and complete the volunteer commitments for the new association. The partnership committee is working together to bring more alignment to their volunteer commitment requirements - they will also work together should you have an athlete playing in two different associations.

Q. My athlete has been released to another association, do I need to register with the new association?

A. You will not need to register, your athlete will be transferred (released) which will be done by the association registrars. You will receive an email from the new associations registrar confirming the release is complete and provide direction for payment.

Q. What if my athlete wants to play on a higher division team (underage), or AA?

A. Please follow each association's standard policies. If you are looking outside of BRA/LRA, please ensure that you inform your home association's President.

Q: What if I have other questions?

A. Please reach out to any member of the Partnership Committee: Derek Rinas, Sydney Waddell, Matt Foreman, Crystal Kardelis, Kevin Paul, Jovan Painchaud, Kim Inkster, Kennedy Horn, Alicia Kardelis, and Tanya Ames.

Q: How do I keep up to date with the progress of this Partnership?

A. Both associations will have links on their respective websites to share information. Also, please check your registered emails over the summer and as we get closer to evaluations.

Topics currently under review:

- Evaluations weekend (dates and times - players should be prepared to evaluate as early as Tuesday, September 2)

