

Section 9 - Playing Up and Down

A. Process For Requesting Player Movement

1. If a player/parent/guardian of a registered LRA member feels that they or their child may be better placed at an age division that differs than the natural birth year, they must do so by completing the Player Movement Request Form which is available on the LRA website. **All players requesting to move must complete the form, for all age divisions, whether the request is to play up or down.** The form must be submitted no later than 11:00 pm on August 15th of the upcoming ringette season. For each request, the Director of Player Development will interview the Player, the Player's parents, and other persons deemed appropriate (e.g. former coaches). The interviews, along with consideration of the feasibility of the requested move and any other relevant factors (which include but are not necessarily limited to such things as Calgary Ringette League, Ringette Alberta, and Ringette Canada rules), will be formulated into a recommendation as to whether the requested move should be considered. If requests are considered valid, a Player Movement Committee (PMC) shall be struck by the Director of Player Development. This committee shall consist of the Director of Player Development, the coach of the team the player wishes to move to, and at least one other person with demonstrated ringette knowledge Example: former coach. Committee members shall have no conflict of interest to said player.

B. Playing Up or Down Divisions

1. If the request is to **play down** and the Player Movement Committee approves, the move will be permitted. The Director of Player Development will advise the overage player's Head Coach an "Overage Player Request" will need to be submitted to Ringette Alberta for Divisions U12 and above.
2. If the request is to **play up** and the PMC accepts the recommendation of the Director of Player Development, an evaluation process will occur.
3. Players requesting to **move up** a division, must submit a \$100.00 cheque, payable to the Lethbridge Ringette Association. This is for all levels except players registered in Active Start requesting a move to U10. Players that are requesting to move up a division, must attend evaluations for the age level they would like to move to. In order to be considered for placement on the higher team, the player must be able to contribute to the teams competitiveness and develop their overall skills at the higher level.
4. Evaluation of individual player attributes include but are not limited to:
 - Player maturity (i.e. age, socially).
 - Ringette experience (standard of previous playing levels).
 - Ringette skills, decision making ability / game sense.
 - Athleticism, speed, and development potential.
 - Work Ethic: Is the player hard working – consistently makes effort in games & practices.
5. The following conditions apply to playing up:
 - If approved, the Player movement is only valid for the one year only.
 - The PMC will look at all Division player numbers to determine viable teams at each Division prior to a Player Evaluation Process.
 - The PMC monitors the evaluation, and determines placement.
 - The results of the Player evaluation will be presented to the LRA Board as appropriate as per the recommendations of the PMC.

C. Association Needs

1. In exceptional years, it may be necessary for the Association to move Players in order to balance divisions or to form viable Teams.
2. The PMC and/or the LRA Board reserves the right to place players in a division that is more in line with their skill level and not necessarily in alignment with their age group or, recommend development opportunities to allow the player to play in the desired level. This is adhering to Ringette Alberta's implementation of Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), and the principle of "meaningful competition" embodied by the Universal Athlete Assessment (hereafter referred to as UAA).