



MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION'S

FAIR ICE POLICY



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RINGETTE ONTARIO'S FAIR ICE GUIDELINES

For the 2022/23 ringette season Ringette Ontario discontinued the Fair Ice Policy and replaced it with the Ringette Ontario Fair Ice Guidelines.

[Ringette Ontario's Fair Ice Guideline](#)



RINGETTE ONTARIO FAIR ICE GUIDELINES

Ringette Ontario supports Fair Ice Guidelines for all players at all levels.

A/AA Level of Play

It is the coaching staff's responsibility to ensure that all players receive "fair ice time", however this does not mean "equal ice time".

Ice time for all players should balance out over the course of the season. All players should be given the opportunity to play in power play, even-strength and penalty killing situations. The goal is to develop the ability of all players to play in all situations.

These guidelines allow for "shortening the bench" during the last quarter of a game and in key situations that could impact placement in the standings, extend participation in a tournament or Championships.

Notwithstanding the above, coaches may reserve the option to 'bench' players for disciplinary reasons at any point during a game and the incident should be further discussed with the athlete and parent(s) after the game, adhering to the Rule of Two.

B/C/Regional House League Levels of Play

At the B/C/Regional House League levels, a player should not intentionally get more or less ice time than another. The spirit of this guideline is not to have stopwatches out on shift lengths, but that all players competing at this level of ringette should be getting equal ice time, within reasonable ranges. Athletes should not be put on or kept off the ice in certain situations such as a power play or a key moment late in the game.

Ringette Ontario believes that all players deserve an equal opportunity to contribute at all times of the game and for equal lengths of time, and that while "shortening the bench" may help a team have a better chance to win, the harm to an athlete's confidence lasts much longer than the temporary satisfaction of winning the game. No matter what the situation may be, the coach is encouraged to roll the next line or next player.

GOALTENDERS

There is an expectation that throughout the season, each player will have accumulated approximately the same amount of ice time, to the best abilities of the coach. Goaltenders have the option of changing at half-time of each game or playing full games if they have equal game time throughout a season and/or round-robin portion of a tournament. In tournament play, coaches can use goaltenders anytime during championship round (mini-games, quarterfinals, semi-finals, and finals)

*Additional/Substitution Goalie at a Provincial Championship for the U14, U16 and U19 age levels, must complete a form and submit for approval to the Operations Director and Competitions Committee.

This role is unique to the Provincial Championships, and the Fair Ice Guidelines will not apply. The Additional/Substitution Goalie will be allowed to play in up to a maximum of 2 games except in the case of illness or injury to the original team goalie.



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NOTE: The U12A division is not governed by GLRL. It has been transferred from the provincial level of play to the regional level of play and will therefore follow LORL governance in alignment with RO's B/C/Regional House League Levels of Play.

LOWER ONTARIO RINGETTE LEAGUE FAIR PLAY RULES

The Lower Ontario Ringette League, (LORL) details the requirements of the ***"Fair Play Rules"*** in the LORL Policies and Procedures found at the link below and captured in the following pages.

[LORL Policies and Procedures](#)



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LOWER ONTARIO RINGETTE LEAGUE

ADULT 18+

- The adult standing committee, in consultation with the 18+ teams, will recommend loops

GAMESHEETS

All LORL games FUN3 and above will be recorded using RAMP Gamesheets. It is the responsibility of each team and club to ensure the scorekeeper at each game is trained on the app. Below are gamesheet resource materials created by Ringette Ontario.

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/Ringette-Ontario-Provincial-RAMP-GameSheet-App-Guide.pdf>

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/Electronic-gamesheets-For-Timekeepers.pdf>

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/RAMP-GAMESHEETS-Questions-and-Answers.pdf>

Scores displayed on the scoreboard at any given game will only show a maximum of a 7-point spread.

FAIR PLAY RULES

1. LORL supports the Ringette Ontario guidelines on fair play found here: [RO Fair Play Guidelines](#). Following the spirit of the guideline, LORL has added rules outlined below with possible consequences for the following reasons:
2. **Sportsmanship:** Fairplay rules promote good sportsmanship, encouraging players to compete fairly and respect their opponents, officials and the game itself.
3. **Game Integrity:** Fairplay rules help maintain the integrity of the game, ensuring the outcome is determined by skill and strategy rather than unfair tactics.
4. **Player Development:** Fairplay rules contribute to positive development of players, teaching them important skills such as teamwork, respect and resilience.
5. **Spectator Experience:** Fairplay rules enhance the spectator experience by ensuring that the game is exciting and fair for all involved.

Overall, fairplay rules are essential for creating a safe, respectful, and enjoyable environment for everyone participating in or watching a Ringette game.



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LOWER ONTARIO RINGETTE LEAGUE

	FUN 3 & Under	U12	U14	U16	U19
Game Type	Regional	Regional	Regional	Regional	Regional
League Development Games (before Dec. 31st)	E	E	E	E	E
League Competition (after Jan. 1st)	E	E	D2	D2	D2
Regionals	E	D1	D2	D3	D3

EQUAL (E)

Is defined as equal ice-time every game to the best of the coach, allowing for the uncertainty in the frequency in stoppages of play. Exceptions will be made where lines are not balanced:

Example: 4 defence, 2 centres, 5 forwards. The expectation is that those playing in the positions receive equal ice time - no "shortening the bench."

DISCRETION 1 (D1)

Is defined as equal ice time every game, however, there is the ability for a coach to use select players in the last two (2) minutes of regulation time and overtime.

DISCRETION 2 (D2)

Is defined as equal ice time every game, however, there is the ability for a coach to use select players in the last two (2) minutes of regulation time, overtime and any situation that does not require five (5) skaters vs. five (5) skaters.

DISCRETION 3 (D3)

Is defined as equal ice time every game, however, there is the ability for a coach to use select players in the last two (2) minutes of regulation time, overtime and any situation that does not require five (5) skaters vs. five (5) skaters. Further, coaches have the ability to use players anytime during post round robin play as they decide.

GOALTENDERS

Goaltenders have the option of changing at half-time of each game or playing full games as long as they have equal game time throughout a season and/or tournament. Goaltenders are restricted to a one game differential throughout the season and during tournaments. Further, coaches have the ability to use goaltenders anytime during the post round robin play as they decide. There is an expectation that throughout the season, each player will have accumulated approximately the same amount of ice time,



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LOWER ONTARIO RINGETTE LEAGUE

to the best abilities of the coach.

ENFORCEMENT

Ensuring fair play **IS NOT** the responsibility of officials. This is impossible to police during game play by officials. No coach will make a complaint to officials during game play.

The process will be as follows:

STEP ONE: The Head coach will inform his/her club's president in writing who will then forward to the LORL Complaints and Discipline Committee.

STEP TWO: The LORL C&D Committee will forward the complaint to the offending coach's club president.

STEP THREE: The offending club will investigate, discipline the coach appropriately and inform the LORL C&D Committee of the actions taken. LORL reserves the right to impose a stricter form of discipline.

Subsequent complaints will lead to consequences levied by LORL at which time LORL will follow the Discipline Process as outlined in Appendix B.

If a team or coach feels the process has not been fair, they may request a tribunal to investigate. [See Appendix A](#)

SPORTSMANLIKE PLAY

Ringette is a mass participation team sport that encourages the physical, mental, social, and moral development of individual participants within the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, personal excellence and enjoyment.

It is the head coach's responsibility to ensure that bench staff, players and spectators treat opponents and officials with respect in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. They are to actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of Ringette and the spirit of such rules.

The following are traditions and conventions of Ringette - it is a coach's responsibility to instil the following with his/her players:

Fair Play: Play with honour and integrity. Respect your opponents and the officials. Don't break the rules on purpose because you can "get away with it".

Cheering: Recognize great effort, plays or moves on both teams especially goaltenders.



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MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION'S REQUIREMENTS

Fair Play Compliance Policy

As an active member of Ringette Ontario (RO) and the Lower Ontario Ringette League (LORL), the Mitchell Ringette Association shall comply with all Fair Play and Fair Ice regulations as established by the governing bodies. Specifically:

Provincial Teams – The Fair Ice Guidelines for Provincial Level teams shall be those established and enforced by Ringette Ontario.

Regional Teams – The Fair Play Rules for Regional Level teams shall be those established jointly by Ringette Ontario and the Lower Ontario Ringette League.

Accordingly, all Mitchell Ringette Association teams, whether regional or provincial, will adhere to the Fair Play standards applicable to their respective level of play.

MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION'S PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING A FORMAL COMPLAINT

When an individual deems it necessary to begin a formal complaint regarding the Fair Ice Policy, the **Mitchell Ringette Association Concern Form** is downloaded from the www.mitchellringette.com website. The form is filled in by the individual and electronically sent to the President, (and delegate) or the Disciplinary Chair, (and delegate).

MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIONS WHEN A COMPLAINT IS RAISED

When an official complaint has been made to the Mitchell Ringette Association the MRA's President, (and delegate) will communicate directly with the person(s) who submitted the complaint. The President, (and delegate) will confirm the specific details of the complaint and establish if the following steps are to be taken to rectify the situation.



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FIRST CONTACT MEETING CALLED WITH FULL BENCH STAFF TO DISCUSS THAT A COMPLAINT HAS BEEN MADE

If the President (and delegate) deems it necessary, the bench staff of the team that has been highlighted as not following the Fair Ice Policy will be contacted to meet with the Disciplinary Chair, (or delegate), Coaching Chair, (or delegate) and President, (or delegate). The President, (and delegate) will share with the bench staff the details surrounding the complaint. An open discussion will take place to share details and information between the exec and bench staff regarding the complaint, fair play rules and how the team has been managed by the bench staff to date. If any additional training or help for the bench staff is required moving forward, details will be agreed upon at this meeting.

MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION SANCTIONS FOR INFRACTIONS

Sanctions start with a warning and escalating to suspensions to coaches when an observable difference in the playing time players of the same position is witnessed;

Meeting minutes for all discussions below will be captured in the MITCHELL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION WRITTEN REVIEW form.

One (1), official warning issued and a meeting with the Disciplinary Chair, (or delegate), Coaching Chair, (or delegate) and President, (or delegate). Strategies will be worked on to assist the bench staff with meeting the requirements.

Two (2), Senior Coach or MRA executive will be assigned to the team to monitor/assist the bench staff in person at no fewer than the next three games. If possible, a Senior Coach can be added to the bench staff in RAMP. If adding the Coach to the bench staff is not possible, the assisting member can stand at the edge of the bench to monitor. Upon completion of the required numbers of review games, a meeting will take place with the Disciplinary Chair, (or delegate), Coaching Chair, (or delegate) and President, (or delegate) to establish the next steps.

Three (3), coach suspended for seven (7) days.

Four (4), coach suspended for thirty (30) days.

Five (5), coach suspended for one (1) calendar year.



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Process of resetting number of observable offences for a coach:

If the number of infractions is two (2) or less and the time since the last infraction is equal to or greater than three (3) years, then the number of infractions is reset to zero (0).