



# *Newmarket Ringette Association*

1111 Davis Drive, Suite #1-125, Newmarket, Ontario. L3Y 9E5

---

## **Team Structure Policy**

It is the intent of this policy to ensure that the Newmarket Ringette Association (herein referred to as NRA) continues to provide a “Fun and Enjoyable” experience for all players, and uphold the constitution of equal play, when the number of registered players warrants the forming of more than one team in any age division.

The goal is to be able to, as fairly as possible, provide all players the opportunity to play at a caliber level conducive to their needs, wishes and abilities, while taking into consideration the specific constraints of Ringette rules and regulations, and the availability of other teams of the same caliber in the NRA region of play.

### **Team Structure Process**

When there are enough players registered in any age division to facilitate the forming of more than one team in that age division the following criteria will be taken into consideration to determine the caliber of teams being created.

1. The NRA will adhere to, and follow any rules, regulations or guidelines regarding team division requirements established by the ORA or other higher governing body (i.e. SRRA) specific to the age division affected by this policy.
  - a. If there is a higher governing body that stipulates one team must be of higher caliber than the second or third team within the same age division then the NRA will adhere to these regulations by:
    - i. Evaluating players per the Player Evaluation Process Policy
    - ii. Utilize the evaluation process as noted in the Player Evaluation Process Policy to first form one strong “competitive” team by offering those players with the highest average score a position on the team. If a player declines then the next highest rated player will be offered a position until the team roster is complete.
    - iii. The remaining players will form the other team or
    - iv. If there are enough remaining players to form two teams, or if there is no higher caliber team being formed, then the ranking scores will be used to establish teams for the other available divisions in the regions of play. If there are enough players to form a “B” Major or “B” level team, the highest ranked players will be offered positions in the same format as indicated for a competitive team. Remaining players will form a “C” or “B” Minor team. Although efforts will be made to accommodate team placement requests for car pooling purposes and/or friend/family relationships (for divisions up to and including U10), in order to maintain the appropriate skill level of the respective teams, no specific placements can be guaranteed.
    - v. The maximum number of players on each team will be 16.

- b. If there are no rules or regulations as stipulated by a higher governing body then the NRA Board of Directors Committee will structure the caliber of teams taking into consideration the following:
  - i. The caliber of the teams available to play against within our Region for the age division affected by this policy. If the region only has one caliber level of team, but has different "pools of play" the ranking scores (and player age) will be used to establish "senior" and a "junior" level teams, while still ensuring the philosophy of "Fun For Everyone" and uphold the constitution of equal play for every player.

**Overage Players:**

All players who have played Ringette for at least one year will play in their appropriate age division the following year. Any player who has played more than one year who requests to play as an overage player must submit a written request to the NRA Board of Directors Committee and detail reasons why they feel they should be able to play in the lower age division. The NRA Board of Directors Committee members will entertain "true hardship" submissions and either approve or deny the request. All overage players must complete an Out of Age Player Request form, which is subject to final approval by the SRRRA membership services coordinator

When there are multiple teams available in a division, the NRA reserves the right to restrict the number of overage players to 2. When special circumstances arise (i.e. there is only 1 team in the age division, and 3 potential players) the SRRRA membership services coordinator is required to present the association's circumstances to the SRRRA committee to seek approval for the exception.

*This policy may be revised at any time by the elected Board of Directors Committee and it is the member's responsibility to ensure that they have the read the most recent version.*