

Provincial A/AA Tryouts

Tryout Process

The tryout process consists of the following steps:

1. Submit a Player Intent (Association agnostic - i.e., a single intent covers all associations) by March 20, 2023.
2. Register with your home association - this is required for insurance purposes. Registration will open around the first week of April (TBC).
3. Register/Pay for tryouts in each Association tryout you plan to attend (cost will be posted on Association websites once they are confirmed to host a team at the various levels).
4. Attend Tryouts - Players may attend as many tryouts as they wish (payment will be required at each Association), however players must follow the Closest Association Matrix.
5. Offer to Play / Spot Not Offered - Following tryouts, players will be offered a spot on a team or provided with a Player Release form in order to move on to another Association.

How do Tryouts Work?

- If there are tryouts on the same night for 2 or more Associations, you must attend the tryouts that are first in your pathway (home, current, closest).
- A bona fide effort must be given by the athlete at each tryout.
- Attendance is tracked and reported by the associations at each tryout within 24 hours to ensure that player movement rules are being followed.
- Typically there are a minimum of 2 tryouts, before any cuts are made. However, Coaches or Associations may make cuts after the 1st tryout.
- Decisions will be communicated by email. If cuts are being made, you may receive notice that you have not been offered a spot on the team, and a release form will be provided so that you are now eligible to receive offers from the next Closest Association. The Roster Spot Not Offered letter is supporting documentation that will be required to accompany the release form.
- Some players may receive an "Invitation only" or receive an "Offer to Play".
 - Invite only tryouts are used when the team needs to make further cuts after 1-2 tryouts.
 - Some coaches may invite back all remaining players while others may invite just the players they want to further evaluate.
 - In some cases, top athletes may not be invited back as they have already made the team and do not need to be seen again.

If you receive an Offer to Play, you will be given 48 hours to accept or decline the offer. If accepted, the Offer to Play is a binding contract. Once accepted, players may not rescind their offer and move on to another Association. If an offer to play is declined for any reason, players must return to their Home Association and play at the next level down offered (for example, if you decline an "A" level in another association, you would return to the Paris B team for that age).

Player Intents - U16A & U19A

Any player who is interested in trying out for an U16A and U19A team is welcome and must complete a [Player Intent Form](#) before attending any tryouts.

Player Intent Forms must be completed and submitted by March 20, 2023. Players will not be permitted to attend any tryout if a Player Intent Form has not been completed by the deadline. It's advisable that you complete the form if you are interested in playing A/AA, even if you're not 100% certain that you will attend the tryout. The Intent form is a planning tool but does not commit the players to attending a tryout.

Players are encouraged to try out in multiple Associations to maximize your opportunity of being offered a spot on a team; however, the [Closest Association Matrix](#) must be followed.

If your Home Association is offering the level of play, players must try out with their Home Association first. If your Home Association is not offering the level of play, players are encouraged to try out with other Associations, ensuring that they are following the Closest Association Matrix.

EXAMPLE:

Paris is planning to host a U16A team and a U19A. All Paris U16 and U19 aged players who wish to tryout for "A" level play, must tryout with Paris first. You may also choose to try out with neighbouring Associations who are offering U16A and U19A.

If you do not tryout with Paris U16A and U19A, are not selected for Paris U16A and U19A or another Association with a U16A and U19A team, you will be able to play on the Paris U16B and U19B team (no tryout process required).

The [Closest Association Matrix](#) for Paris players is as follows:

1. Paris (Home)
2. Cambridge
3. Caledonia
4. Hamilton
5. Burlington
6. Mississauga

If there is no team available at the Home Association (e.g, U16A), and the player is not offered a spot in Cambridge (Closest Association), it is up to Burlington to offer a spot or release the player to Mississauga. Players cannot simply choose where they would like to play - they must be released (according to the [Player Release Policy](#)) in the order of the Closest Association Matrix. In this example, if a player attends a tryout in Paris, Cambridge and Burlington but is not offered a spot in Paris or Cambridge, Mississauga cannot offer a spot to this player without a release from Burlington. If however, Burlington needs more "A" players at this age division, they are within their rights not to release the player.

If there is no team being offered in your Home Association, players may go directly to the next Closest Association tryout if they are offering that level of play.

Expectations of A Provincial Ringette

U16 & U19A

U16A & U19A levels of ringette are more competitive levels of ringette, also referred to as “Provincial”, where players must try out for a spot on the team.

- In most cases, the commitment level of a U16A & U19A team is more demanding than B teams, including time, travel and financial requirements.
- U16A & U19A teams will typically practice 1-2x per week, 1x dryland conditioning/strategy session and have 1-2 games (home or away) per week
- Provincial teams play in the [Great Lakes Ringette League](#) which covers Chatham to Paris to Sunderland to Barrie and everywhere in between (spanning Southern, Central and Western Regions).
- “A” teams will still travel the same distance but will have more opportunity for games closer to home
- U16A & U19A teams typically enter up to 4 tournaments per season in addition to the Provincial year-end tournament. These tournaments are assigned by Ringette Ontario, and are a minimum of 4 games and some may begin on Thursday, which increases the financial considerations (travel, time off, accommodations, meals, etc.).
- The Provincial year-end tournament can be hosted anywhere in the province. For reference: the 2023 A “Provincials” is in Mississauga, in 2022 it was in Ottawa.

U16A and U19A teams play in the [Great Lakes Ringette League](#) which covers Forest to Paris to Kitchener to Barrie and everywhere in between (spanning Southern, Central and Western Regions). There may be more travel, however most games are in your home region - particularly in the first half.

There are no minimum requirements for tournaments - this will be decided by team interest. Some tournaments will have a minimum of 4 games - thus the fees for these tournaments may be slightly higher. The year-end tournament for 12A may not be the same location or date as the B Regional year-end tournament for Paris’s B teams. This will not be determined until the season is well underway.

More information about U16A and U19A will be coming over the next few months. **No other action is required at this time other than submitting in your intent**, other than registering with your Home Association via RAMP as per usual when it becomes available in early April 2023.

Important Key Dates

Date	Description
Feb 15 - Mar 20	Player Intent Forms Available (A/AA)
Mar 31	Associations confirmed to host teams at A/AA levels
Apr 1 - 10	Tryout schedules to be posted on Association websites
May 12	AA Teams formed (all offers must be accepted/declined)
May 2023	U16A and U19A Tryouts (Times and Dates to be provided once Southern team approval has completed)
June 5	Teams formed (all offers must be accepted/declined)
Sept - TBC	U12 Sort outs can begin (timing TBC based on ice availability)



Dear Player and Parent:

We are very pleased that you have decided to try out for a competitive team within the Southern Region for the 2023/24 season. Being a member of a competitive ringette team requires a significant commitment from players and parents alike. This letter serves to acknowledge these commitments and makes our organizational expectations explicit. Please review them and return the signed letter **prior to your first tryout event**. Our hope is that being a part of the Southern Region is not just about excellent ringette, it's also about, **Building meaningful relationships and strength of character through team sport.**

Player:

I understand that in deciding to participate, I am making a year-long commitment to myself, my coaches, and my teammates, and I commit to:

- Always give my best effort during practices and games
- Always be ready to play and demonstrate good sportsmanship on the ice.
- Attending all team practices, games, and events
- Arriving by the time my coach expects me to arrive for all events.
- Giving notice and receiving permission from my coach in writing via email or text in the event that I am unable to attend a team event for any reason (including illness, vacation, school event and any/all other reasons)
- Respecting my teammates, my coaches, the referees, and opposing teams
- Making my first commitment to my team and my coaches – that is, if I decide to play another sport/activity and there are conflicts between them and ringette (for any team event), I will choose to participate with my team in ringette first.
- Talking to my coach if I have a problem or a question.
- Practicing my skills at home as directed by my coach.

I understand that if I do not comply with these expectations, I should expect appropriate and reasonable consequences, including sitting out a practice, sitting out part of or a full game, and/or possibly being removed from the team.

Player Name (Printed) _____

Player Signature _____

Date _____



Parents:

I/we understand that the commitment is a year-long commitment, and I/we will:

- Encourage my athlete to give their best effort on the ice.
- Encourage my athlete to develop good sportsmanship, by demonstrating good sportsmanship.
- Encourage my athlete to work on their skills at home.
- Help my athlete remember that their commitment is to the team, and if she decides to participate in another activity and there are conflicts between that and ringette, to prioritize ringette first.
- Encourage my athlete to show respect for their teammates, coaches, game officials, and opposing teams, by demonstrating the same.
- Allow the coaches to do their job and resist negative commentary during games or amongst parents.
- Engage with the coaching and/or management staff in a constructive and collaborative manner for any ringette questions, concerns, or clarifications.
- Ensure that my athlete arrives on time to practices and to games.
- Communicate with the Coach in writing and receive permission in writing if my athlete will be late or absent from a team event (including illness, vacation, school event and any/all other reasons)
- Fulfill all financial obligations in a timely manner (according to the payment schedule established at the beginning of the season).

I understand that if I do not comply with these expectations, I should expect appropriate and reasonable consequences to my athlete, including sitting out a practice, sitting out part of or a full game, and/or possibly being removed from the team.

Parent(s) Name (Printed) _____

Parent(s) Signature _____

Date _____