



RHRA Provincial (A/AA) Team Formation Process

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this document is to outline the process that the Richmond Hill Ringette Association (RHRA) will follow to form competitive ringette teams and to conduct player evaluations during the Team Formation Process in a transparent and impartial manner. This document will apply to provincial level teams (A/AA) from U14 -U19.

RHRA follows the principles and guidelines set forth by **Ringette Ontario (RO)**:

1. Team Formation:

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/Ringette-Ontario-Team-Formation-Guidelines-23-24.pdf>

2. Player Evaluation:

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/Operating%20Resources/Ringette-Ontario-Club-Player-Evaluation-Process-Guidelines.pdf>

3. Athlete Release Policy:

<https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/ringetteontariogames/files/Operating%20Resources/Athlete-Release-Policy.pdf>

RHRA also follows the **SRRA AA/A Team Declaration and Tryout Process**:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ursrVjF6bsNmD72GLr2icrSyKo-i2SQ7eIDKQPnOmvI/edit>

NB:

- The Coach's player will not be automatically on the team. If a Coach has a player trying out at the A or AA level they wish to coach, the player must try out and be selected through the Team Formation Process.
- Coaches will not name any bench staff until after the Team Formation Process is complete.
- Coaches agree to follow the most recent RHRA Team Formation Process Policy. They also agree to follow all directions given to them by the Team Selection Committee.
- All players, or guardians of players under the age of eighteen (18), shall sign the SRRA Provincial Team Expectation document and agree to the terms and conditions prior to participating in tryouts.

PROCESS

1. The RHRA Board of Directors (“Board”) shall determine the viability of any team.
2. RHRA will host tryouts for all A and AA levels based on information collected from the SRRA Player Intent Forms.
3. RHRA will strive to have tryout information (dates, times, fees) posted on their website with as much advance notice as possible.
4. Players wishing to play at the competitive A or AA levels for any ringette association are expected to sign up and try-out for all closest ringette associations that they might be interested in playing for. This is particularly important in the event that any RHRA team should become non-viable, e.g.:
 - a. Minimum Team Formation numbers are not met
 - b. Lack of goalies available at various ages/levels
 - c. The minimum calibre of skilled players at a certain age/level is not met
 - d. Any other factors that have potential to impact a team’s ability to compete
5. Except for exceptional circumstances, players must attend a minimum of two (2) RHRA tryouts to qualify for consideration of placement on a RHRA team.
 - *If a player is unable to attend any tryout dates for a valid reason (i.e. emergency, injury, illness, preplanned travel out of province) but still intends to try out, they must request an exemption, in writing, to the RHRA President (president@rhringette.com) - at least 48 hours prior to the 1st tryout date. Tryout exemption requests will be reviewed by the Team Selection Committee in consultation with the team’s Head Coach.*
 - A note by the treating healthcare practitioner may be required for absence and/or return to tryout.
6. The President (with the input of the Coaching Coordinator and Board) will appoint a Team Selection Committee and Coordinator. The Coordinator will oversee the team formation process but is not directly involved in the evaluation or the team selection process. There will preferably be one Coordinator for each of the A and AA tryouts.

The Team Selection Committee will consist of at least 3 independent evaluators of various ringette backgrounds (i.e. player/coach, preferably at that level or higher) who may know some of the players trying out, but shall not be a family member of a player or Head Coach, or a potential bench staff.

The Coordinator will:

- Provide each evaluator with a list of players to evaluate at each ice time
- Distribute, collect and calculate all evaluation scores and provide them to the Head Coach and team’s Selection Committee
- Update the SRRA Player Tryout Tracking Google Spreadsheet in a timely manner (within 24 hours of each tryout)

7. One week prior to the beginning of tryouts, the Head Coach will submit to the Team Selection Committee for approval:
 - a. the names of 1-2 additional independent, experienced evaluators and
 - b. an evaluation methodology that is consistent with the principles set forth by RO's guidelines. Examples of player evaluation criteria resources are listed in the appendix below.

The Head Coach may also propose a separate evaluation criteria for approval by the Team Selection Committee.

The Head Coach and the Team Selection Committee will attend all tryout sessions. However, if that is not possible then a substitute may be named who also complies with the above criteria (i.e. shall not be a family member of a player or Head Coach, or a potential bench staff).

8. The Head Coach is not permitted on the player's benches during the tryout period. They may designate someone who is not in conflict with any of the athletes instead. The Head Coach is responsible for organizing personnel to assist with on-ice drills/skills and scrimmages.
9. The Head Coach may not evaluate their own player.
10. The Head Coach should be selected prior to tryouts. RHRA may run tryouts prior to selection and announcement of the Head Coach should there be no qualified Head Coach applicant.
11. After the 2nd tryout, the Head Coach and their evaluators will review all evaluations and propose a list of players to invite to the 3rd tryout. They may also choose to release some players at this point. The list of invited and released players will be submitted to the Team Selection Committee for review and approval.
12. At no point during or after the tryout process shall any player's performance or ranking be discussed with anyone outside of the Head Coach or the Team Selection Committee.
13. RHRA will follow the current SRRRA minimum player number requirements for team formation.
14. All players (skaters and goalies) will try out at their age-appropriate level, unless necessary for team viability purposes. In situations where there are not enough skaters or goalies - athletes may be required to play at a different age or competitive level, as determined by the Team Selection Committee. As an example, a goalie may be required to play up one age level if there are no goalies for that level by the end of the tryout period.
15. If at the end of the AA tryouts there are only 2 goalies remaining for an age division for 2 prospective teams (A and AA) - the AA team will be permitted to choose only one goalie at this time. Should a 3rd goalie accept an offer during the A team formation, the 2nd goalie, identified during the AA tryouts, may then be reconsidered for the AA team with the approval of the AA Head Coach and Team Selection Committee. This reconsideration would also be provisional on their evaluation scores/minimum calibre of play for the AA team.

16. Team sizes and player (skater/goalie) distribution will be determined by the Team Selection Committee for viability purposes. The final team roster will be determined by the members of the Team Selection Committee with input from the Head Coach through a discussion after the final tryout.
17. The SRRA "Offer to Play" Letter and "Roster Spot Not Offered" Letter shall be used. Where a Non-RHRA athlete is offered a roster spot, the RO Player Release Form shall be included with the Offer to Play letter.
18. At the competitive A and AA level - players / parents agree to commit to all current RHRA requirements to make ringette their priority sport. An offer to play will be revoked if the player / parent does not agree to the terms in the RHRA Offer to Play requirements.
19. RHRA will follow the current SRRA guidelines for the minimum number of home/ current players required at a certain age/division level (see SRRA document above).
20. Once team formation is complete - Head Coaches are free to offer positions to bench staff. Bench staff will be officially added to a team's TRF, following approval by the RHRA Team Selection Committee/Board. An applicant may not be approved if they have a past history of misconduct or disciplinary action.
21. Following AA tryouts, the Coaching Selection Committee will then proceed with A-level Head Coach selection. If a Coach's player does not make a higher level team (e.g. AA team), they will have the option of staying to coach at the higher level (AA), or enter the competition for the A-level Head Coach. If there is a competition at the lower level, a second interview may be required at the discretion of the Coaching Selection Committee.
22. All offers to play for Non-RHRA Athletes are conditional. It is the responsibility of the player to obtain releases from all pertinent parties in compliance with RO and SRRA policies and to provide this prior to receiving an offer letter.
23. RHRA will follow all RO and SRRA policies regarding athlete releases. RHRA athletes not trying out at all closest associations between RHRA and an offering association may not be released (see RO Athlete Release Policy).
24. Determination of the final number and level of teams will be dependent on approval from SRRA. RHRA further reserves the right to change the final number/level of teams formed based on the calibre and number of players available.
25. The RHRA President will act as an escalation point should there be concerns that cannot be resolved between the Head Coach, and the RHRA Team Selection Committee. Any issues or concerns that cannot be resolved directly through this process may be brought to the RHRA board for final decision.

Appendix:

Player Evaluation Criteria:

U14 level:

www.ringettebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Performance-Criteria-chart-for-U14-Evaluations-Form-with-Goalie-Evaluation.pdf

U16 & U19 level:

www.ringettebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Performance-Criteria-chart-for-U16-U19-Evaluation-Form-with-Goalie-Evaluation.pdf