



# 2027 Canada Winter Games Athlete Self-Identification (ID) Package

## About Ringette and the Canada Winter Games

Ringette was first introduced into the Canada Winter Games in 1991. Held every four years, the Canada Winter Games are a key event in the development of Canada's young athletes. As the best in their age group, these young competitors come to the Games having trained long and hard to be among those chosen to represent their respective province or territory and compete for the Canada Games Flag and Centennial Cup. With the Canada Games poised as a key step in the development of Canada's future stars, Canada Games athletes are Canada's next generation Junior and Senior National team athletes. In Ringette, the Canada Games is an opportunity for Learn to Win stage athletes to compete as part of their provincial team. The level of play is AAA and a stepping-stone towards international level competition.

The 2027 Canada Winter Games will take place from February 26 - March 15, 2027, in Quebec City. Athletes born in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 will be eligible to try out. A team of 18 athletes will be selected to attend, along with 1 head coach and 3 assistant coaches.

### A. Athlete eligibility

- Athletes must be born in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010.
- Athletes must identify as female.
- Athletes must be registered with Ringette Alberta and be in good standing.

**\*Note: athletes who wish to attend RAB Cup in 2025 and 2026 do not have to self-ID for Canada Winter Games to participate in RAB Cup. It will still be open to all and provide the same quality and content for all attendees, as well as individual feedback.**

## B. Scouting process

- a. **Complete the self-ID form.** There will be 5 cutoff periods for self-ID. Athletes who self-ID in between deadlines will be picked up as part of the next phase, with the exception of April 1, 2026, being the final opportunity to be considered for Team Alberta 2027. Deadlines are important because of the logistics required for team staff to do their scouting and pre-event prep.

### **Scouting Phases & Self-ID form submission deadlines:**

- **Phase 1:** athletes may be scouted prior to RAB Cup 2025 (coaching staff may decide not to do this).
    - **Self-ID Deadline:** January 31, 2025, at NOON
  - **Phase 2:** athletes scouted at RAB Cup 2025 including fitness testing
    - **Self-ID Deadline:** April 1, 2025
  - **Phase 3:** athletes scouted during the 2025-26 playing season Sept.-Nov.
    - **Self-ID Deadline:** August 31, 2025
  - **Phase 4:** athletes scouted during the 2025-26 season and complete fitness testing in late 2025.
    - **Self-ID Deadline:** November 15, 2025:
  - **Phase 5:** athletes scouted at the 2026 RAB Cup, including fitness testing. **This is the final opportunity for athletes to Self-ID for Team Alberta.** All interested athletes MUST participate in RAB Cup 2026, unless they have an approved exemption form (see below).
    - **FINAL Self-ID Deadline:** April 1, 2026
- b. Register for RAB Cup 2025 (registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>) – **approx. cost \$250** including fitness test.
    - No releases will be made during or following this camp. Information gathering/scouting only.
  - c. RAB Cup events will include fitness testing and a meeting for self-ID athletes on the Friday evening.
  - d. Complete fitness testing in Nov./Dec. 2025. Depending on how this is done with club teams or as extras, there **may be an additional fee** associated. (\*RAB will work with local clubs and associations to set this up. Many AA teams do their own fitness testing, and we will work together rather than schedule additional testing. Athletes whose teams are not doing this type of mid-season testing will work with teams in their area who are, or RAB will assist in scheduling)
  - e. Register for RAB Cup 2026 (registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>) – **approx. cost \$250** including fitness test.
    - Releases will be made following this camp.

## C. Selection process

- a. Following RAB Cup 2026, invited athletes will participate in a selection camp in mid-late May 2026. There **may be a fee** to attend.
- b. Team selection may happen following this camp, or it may be further reduced for a camp in June.

#### D. Commitments and expectations

Athletes who are successful in playing for Team Alberta will have several commitments to meet for the 2026-27 season. Athletes are encouraged to have excellent time management skills.

- a. Athletes must play ringette during the 2026-27 season for an association or club team. They are expected to contribute to that team.
- b. Athletes should expect to have one CWG weekend commitment per month. The team may attend up to 4 pre-competition tournaments in Ontario, PEI, Saskatchewan, and will host their own tournament. Dates TBD.
- c. Athletes and families will be expected to contribute to organizing team training weekends and supporting the coaching staff.
- d. There is a financial commitment as well. Fundraising is encouraged, and grants are provided by Alberta Sport, but that does not entirely cover the cost of the program. **Expect to pay \$2,500-\$3,000 per athlete**, before fundraising is accounted for.
- e. Athletes are expected to work with Ringette Alberta to provide photos and biographical information to highlight them on social media.
- f. Athletes are expected to assist with future Ringette Alberta programming as athlete mentors and/or on-ice instructors.

**\*\*Note relating to program cost:** there is no way for us to guarantee what the cost will be for the entire program. Some team activities will be determined by the coaching staff later, costs for camps etc. can fluctuate, we don't yet know how much our government grant will be, and fundraising can offset some cost as well.

#### **Absences/exemptions:**

Athletes who have Self-IDed by any of the deadlines but are unable to attend subsequent events, including RAB Cup 2025, fitness testing in December 2025, or RAB Cup 2026, must be able to provide valid reasoning to remain in consideration for Team Alberta. A specific form will need to be filled out and can be provided on request.

Review our [Athlete Selection Policy](#) for more details.

Athletes who no longer wish to be considered may withdraw at any time by emailing [bronwen@ringettealberta.com](mailto:bronwen@ringettealberta.com). Depending on the timing, refunds may or may not be given.

**Program Q & A scheduled for Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm** via Google Meet. Attendance optional. Log in to ask questions about the format of the program.

CWG 2027 Athlete Q & A

Wednesday, October 30 · 7:00 – 8:00pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/dhn-ukcw-tmo>