

Policy Section	Change	Policy Version #	Date Approved	Effective Date
All	New Policy	0	2002	2002
All	Policy Revisions	0.1 – 0.7	2003-2011	2003-2011
All	Split Policy into sections 1.0 – 23.0, Appendix A – G	1	2012	2012
2.0 – 10.0	Wording Changes, added new sections	2	2014	2014
4.4 (all)	Wording changes	3	08/13/2016	08/13/2016
All	Spelling, Punctuation	4	N/A	11/03/2017
4.4.4.1	Modified UAA timeline wording	5	01/26/2020	01/26/2020
4.4.3	Added new tiering policy for U16 (2023 pilot)	6	08/22/2023	
4.4.3	Added U16/U19 tiering requirements of tiering recommendation is not followed. Matches UAA policy for U10 thru U14 to follow recommendations or tier up.	7	06/20/2024	07/01/2024
4.4.3.4	Added balanced teams when 2 or more at the same division/tier. Not all associations were doing this.			
4.4.4	UAA timeline updated to be earlier to align with league decisions.			
4.4.5.1	Added compliance exception for associations who do not have ice in time to submit UAAs.			

## 4.0 TIERING POLICY

**4.1 Purpose** Place teams at similar skill levels for competition in Ringette Alberta sanctioned games.

**4.2 Applicability** All teams registered with Ringette Alberta.

**4.3 Principles**

- 4.3.1 Below U12, athletes will be grouped by LTAD stages and sub stages.
- 4.3.2 Teams may 'tier up' (register at a higher level) to and including AA provided the local ringette association approves the change.
- 4.3.3 There is no obligation on any Association to ice a 'AA' team.

## 4.4 Requirements

### 4.4.1 Active Start

4.4.1.1 Athletes may be grouped into either the Active Start 1 stage or the Active Start 2 stage.

### 4.4.2 U10, U12, U14

4.4.3.1 Group Members of Ringette Alberta providing programs in these divisions are required to conduct UAA testing.

4.4.3.2 Minimum team level will be determined by relative UAA team score.

### 4.4.3 U16, U19

4.4.3.1 Historical data will be analyzed by a Ringette Alberta appointed Statistician and a tiering recommendation made for each Association

4.4.3.2 One Team in an age division: the team will self-tier at the A or B level.

4.4.3.3 If the Statistician/tiering recommendation is not followed, teams will be tiered as follows, at minimum:

# teams	U16			U19	
	A	B	C	A	B
<b>2</b>	1	1		1	1
<b>3</b>	1	1	1	1	2
<b>4</b>	1	2	1	2	2
<b>5</b>	2	2	1	2	3
<b>6</b>	2 or 1AA + 1A	2	2	3 or 1AA + 2A	3
<b>7</b>	2 or 1AA + 1A	3	2	3 or 1AA + 2A	4
<b>8</b>	3 or 1AA + 2A	3	2	4 or 1AA + 3A	4

4.4.3.4 When 2 or more teams are formed at the same division and tier, balanced team formation is required.

### 4.4.4 Timelines

4.4.4.1 For the purposes of determining team level, UAA testing shall begin no sooner than September 1<sup>st</sup> each season.

4.4.4.2 UAA testing data must be submitted to Ringette Alberta, in the required form, on or before 11:59pm, 15 days after Labour Day in September.

\*except for associations who do not have ice availability at that time. Must be pre-approved by Ringette Alberta.

4.4.4.3 Associations that wish to register a team at a level higher than its UAA score must declare this to Ringette Alberta no later than October 15th each season.

#### 4.4.5 Compliance and Consequences

4.4.5.1 Where an entire association fails to submit ALL of its UAA testing data by the due date and time specified in 4.4.5, all of its teams shall be ineligible for participation in Ringette Alberta Playdowns and Provincials.

\*except for associations who do not have ice availability at that time. Must be pre-approved by Ringette Alberta.

4.4.5.2 When fewer than 80% of a non-AA team's players are tested, the team will start the season as follows:

- U10 teams will start at Step 3
- U12 teams will start at A
- U14 teams will start at A

4.4.5.3 When fewer than 80% of a AA team's players are tested, the association will be fined \$1,500 for each non-compliant team.

#### 4.5 References

2.0 Registration Policy

8.0 Team Advance/Retreat Policy

Appendix A Rates and Fees