

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, add new sections	2	2014	2014
5.4.2,5.4.3, Table 1	Added new section, changed U12C through U19AA affiliate from team chart	3	06/06/2015	06/06/2015
All	Spelling, Punctuation	4	N/A	11/03/2017
Table 1	Added U14C division	5	06/03/2018	06/03/2018
All	Added references to skaters and goaltenders to replace "player" Affiliation may affect post provincial eligibility (WCRC and CRC) Split out clauses by type of players that may be affiliated Goaltender affiliation exception Table 1 U12 level changes Table 2 – removed U12	6	06/15/2019	06/15/2019
5.4.1	Allow goaltenders to affiliate to up to 2 teams	7	08/26/2021	08/26/2021
5.4.10	Removed redundant Case under "Interpretation"	7	08/26/2021	08/26/2021
5.4.19.3	Updated consequence for a 3rd (or subsequent) offence	7	08/26/2021	08/26/2021
Table 1	Added U16C division	8	09/16/2023	09/16/2023
5.4.16	U16C may affiliate U14A players if the player evaluates in the bottom 50% of UAA	8	09/16/2023	09/16/2023
5.4.6	Removed references to goaltenders/skaters as competitors. The intent of this policy change was to not penalize teams who have 2 dressed goaltenders. Maximum number of skaters, with affiliates, to 1 Maximum number of goaltenders, with or without affiliates, is 2 and not dependent on skaters (U14+ only)	8	09/16/2023	09/16/2023
5.2	Added NRL exemption from the affiliation or substitute restrictions	9	06/17/2025	06/17/2025

## 5.0 PLAYER AFFILIATION POLICY

### 5.1 Purpose

Player affiliation allows a Group Member to create a team at a level where there are not enough players for a viable team and allows a team to replace absent, sick, injured, or suspended players on a game-by-game basis.

### 5.2 Applicability

Player affiliation allows a Group Member to create a team at a level where there are not enough players for a viable team and allows a team to replace absent, sick, injured, or suspended players on a game-by-game basis.

National Ringette League (NRL) teams are exempt from the Ringette Alberta affiliation restrictions outlined in the 5.0 Player Affiliation policy. NRL teams may affiliate (U19) or substitute (Open) skaters, including goaltenders, up to their total roster without being subject to the limitations specified in policy 5.4.10 (Affiliate Goaltenders).

### 5.3 Principles

**5.3.1** The term PLAYER includes both skaters who play defence, forward or centre, part-time goaltenders who are dressed as skaters, AND those dressed as goaltenders for a particular game.

- 5.3.2** It is acceptable to allow temporary use of affiliate players, from time to time, to ensure that teams can ice a viable team when insufficient numbers of a team's full-time players are available.
- 5.3.3** Affiliation is NOT a tool to be used to provide additional ice time for select players: Affiliation is not intended to be a supplemental developmental tool. Development that is needed by individual players is the responsibility of that player's Group Member and coaches of that player's full-time team.
- 5.3.4** Affiliation is not to be used to improve the competitiveness of a team at the expense of ice time for a regular roster player; this includes skaters and goaltenders.
- 5.3.5** Affiliating players to teams that may include more skilled and physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially more mature players may not be appropriate and therefore must be made with due diligence.
- 5.3.6** Teams should affiliate only as many players as they reasonably may need to call upon during a season, as it may limit the ability of other teams within the same Group Member to access affiliates, goalies in particular.
- 5.3.7** Teams must be aware that registering an affiliate to their team may affect that player's eligibility for Western Canadian or Canadian Championships. See clause 5.4.18.

## **5.4 Requirements**

- 5.4.1** An affiliate player may be called from their full-time team to play on another team, only as indicated in Table 1 or Table 2 below, with the exception noted in 5.4.1.2 and in compliance with the restrictions in 5.4.3. and 5.4.4.
  - 5.4.1.1** Associations must affiliate suitable players, as defined in the footnote to Table 1, from their own association before they may affiliate players from another association.
  - 5.4.1.2** For goaltenders only, affiliation is allowed to a lower age division team, excluding Open ringette teams, only when the player in question is already "playing up" an age group; e.g. A 15-year-old goaltender is placed on a U19 team to make that U19 team viable. The player may affiliate with a U16 team since the player's age is appropriate for that level already.
  - 5.4.1.3** For goaltenders only, they may affiliate with a maximum of two teams.
  - 5.4.1.4** For goaltenders only, they may also be added to an additional roster as an Emergency Goaltender, per policy 2.4.11
- 5.4.2** An affiliation may be terminated once per season. A player whose an affiliation has been terminated may not affiliate with another team during the same season.
- 5.4.3** Affiliation is conditional on the player, parents (in the case of a minor), coaches and local association(s) agreeing to the affiliation and completing the necessary Player Affiliation Documentation.

**Table 1** (see 5.3 for more guidance on appropriate affiliation)

Affiliation Permitted	TO AFFILIATE TEAM																	Open
	U10 Step 1	U10 Step 2	U10 Step 3	U12 C	U12 B	U12 A	U14 C	U14 B	U14 A	U14 AA	U16 C	U16 B	U16 A	U16 AA	U19 B	U19 A	U19 AA	
U10 Step 1	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
U10 Step 2	✗	✗	☑ <sub>1</sub>	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	See Table 2
U10 Step 3	✗	✗	✗	☑ <sub>1</sub>	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
U12 C	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U12 B	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U12 A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U14 C	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U14 B	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U14 A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U14 AA	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U16 C	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U16 B	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U16 A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	✓	✓	
U16 AA	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	
U19 B	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	✓	
U19 A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	☑	
U19 AA	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	

1 Indicates to a maximum of 5 games per season

☑ Indicates "suitable" player for the purpose of determining when an association may seek affiliates from outside of their association

**Table 2** (see 5.3 for more guidance on appropriate affiliation)

Affiliation Permitted	TO AFFILIATE TEAM								
	Masters	Open D	Open C	Open B	Open A	NRL	U19 AA	U19 A	U19 B
Masters	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
Open D	✓ <sub>1</sub>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
Open C	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
Open B	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
Open A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
NRL	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
U19 AA	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✗	✗	✗
U19 A	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✓	✗	✗
U19 B	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✓	✓	✗
U16, U14	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sub>2</sub>	✓	✓	✓

✓<sub>1</sub> Provided the player meets the Masters age restriction

✓<sub>2</sub> Provided this is permitted in the NRL policy

#### 5.4.4 Timeline

The deadline for Ringette Alberta to receive all Player Affiliation documentation, without paying a late fee, (see Appendix A – Rates and Fees) is November 15th of the current playing season.

#### 5.4.5 Fees

There is no additional registration fee for an affiliate player.

#### 5.4.6 Competitors 'dressed' and listed on a team's game sheet shall be:

5.4.6.1 A minimum of seven (7) players (including skaters and goaltenders).

5.4.6.2 A maximum of five (5) affiliate players.

### **AFFILIATING ONLY SKATERS**

#### 5.4.7 When affiliating only skaters for participation in a game:

5.4.7.1 A maximum of eleven (11) skaters may be dressed and listed on the team's game sheet.

5.4.7.2 A part time goaltender who is dressed as a skater for a particular game is included in the 11 maximum skaters.

### **AFFILIATING ONLY A GOALTENDER**

#### 5.4.8 When affiliating only a goaltender to participate in a game:

5.4.8.1 Subject to 5.4.10, a maximum of eighteen (18) competitors may be 'dressed' and listed on a team's game sheet.

### **AFFILIATING A COMBINATION OF SKATERS AND A GOALTENDER**

#### 5.4.9 When affiliating a combination of skaters and goaltenders for participation in a game:

5.4.9.1 A maximum of 11 skaters and 2 goaltenders may be dressed for a game where a team dresses two goalies subject to clause 5.4.8.

#### 5.4.10 Affiliate Goaltenders

5.4.10.1 The affiliate goaltender is only to be played in the event of illness, injury or absence of the full-time goaltender.

5.4.10.2 The affiliate goaltender may be dressed as a back-up in any game (provided the team follows 5.4.1) and may only play if the full-time goaltender gets hurt or becomes ill during the course of that game.

5.4.10.3 Coaches must ensure the purpose of affiliation is upheld with their goaltender affiliation choices.

Interpretation:

**Case 1:** A team has only 10 or fewer skaters and 1 goaltender from their regular team available to dress for a game:

**Policy allows:** Affiliation of the number of skaters to get the team up to a maximum of 11 dressed skaters on the game sheet for that team.

**Policy allows:** Affiliation of one goaltender (subject to clause 5.4.10) and the number of skaters to get the team up to a maximum of 11 dressed skaters on the game sheet for that team.

**Case 2:** A team has 11 skaters and 2 goaltenders from their regular team available to dress for a game:

**Policy does not allow:** any affiliate players on the game sheet for that team.

**Case 3:** A team has 10 skaters but no goaltenders from their regular team available to dress for a game:

**Policy allows:** a maximum of 1 affiliate skater and 2 affiliate goaltenders on the game sheet for that team.

#### **5.4.11** Number and Type of Games

Where affiliation is permitted (see Table 1 and Table 2), there is no restriction as to the number or type of games an affiliate player may participate in except:

Individuals registered as full-time players at U10 Step 1, U10 Step 2, or U10 Step 3 shall not participate in more than five (5) games per season as an affiliate player;

Group Members are responsible for monitoring and enforcing the five (5) game maximum.

**5.4.12** Affiliate players not eligible to play may be on the bench but cannot be 'dressed'. The players' names must appear on the game sheet with (NOT DRESSED) appearing beside the name.

**5.4.13** A team that is made up of players from different communities should be located at a 'home' association. AA teams may affiliate a player(s) from anywhere under the above affiliation policy.

**5.4.14** U19 and below: Individuals registered as full-time players on a U19 or below team shall only be on two rosters, once as a player and once as an affiliate in the current season.

**5.4.15** U14C may affiliate players from a U12A team within a Group Member Association that does not have a U12B or U12C team. The affiliate player(s) must have scored in the lower 50% of that season's overall UAA score. The affiliate player must be approved by RAB before playing a game for the U14C team.

**5.4.16** U16C may affiliate players from a U14A team within a Group Member Association that does not have a U14B or U14C team. The affiliate player(s) must have scored in the lower 50% of that season's overall UAA score. The affiliate player must be approved by RAB before playing a game for the U16C team.

**5.4.17** 5.4.17 Conflicts regarding Provincial Playdowns and Championships may occur, and therefore team staff must be aware of the dates for each Playdown and Provincial Championship and choose their affiliate players appropriately. The affiliate's main responsibility is to their own team's schedule (practices, league games, exhibition games, playoffs, tournaments, etc.).

**5.4.18** Supervision of a minor affiliated with a higher age group team is the responsibility of the player's parents and the coaching staff of the receiving team.

**5.4.19** Upon the conclusion of the Ringette Alberta Provincial Championship for the full-time team and where the team advances to the Western Canadian or Canadian Ringette Championship, that team's affiliate players shall automatically become full time players on that team except when the affiliate's full-time team from the regular season has also advanced to a Western Canadian or Canadian Ringette Championship in the same season.

**5.4.20 Compliance and Consequences**

5.4.20.1 *First time offence* - the team will receive a loss for the game in which the violation and/or abuse occurred, and the score will be recorded as a 0-7 loss for the penalized team.

5.4.20.2 *Second time offense (within two calendar years of the first offense)* - the Head Coach or Acting Head Coach will receive a 3 game suspension and the team will receive a loss for the game in which the violation and/or abuse occurred, and the score will be recorded as a 0-7 loss for the penalized team.

5.4.20.3 *Third and subsequent offenses (within two calendar years of the first offense)* the Head Coach or Acting Head Coach will be suspended for the remainder of the current playing season, and the team will receive a loss for the game in which the violation and/or abuse occurred, and the score will be recorded as a 0-7 loss for the penalized team.

**5.5 References**

Policy 2.0 Registration Policy  
4.0 Tiering Policy  
9.0 Adult Ringette Policy

**5.6 Definitions**

- a) *Players*: include goaltenders and skaters.
- b) *Skater*: a player dressed to play defence, forward or centre for a particular game.
- c) *Goaltender*: an individual dressed only to play in goal.
- d) *Competitors*: include individuals dressed as goaltenders and skaters for a particular game.