

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
All	Wording, added sections	3	09/20/2017	09/20/2017
All	Spelling, Punctuation	4	N/A	11/03/2017
7.3.2	Added principle and intent of policy. Prevent addition of over-age players to strengthen a team.	5	06/20/2024	07/01/2024

## 7.0 OVERAGE PLAYER POLICY

- 1. Purpose** Sets out the process for the approval of players who are older than the age division in which they are registered.
  
- 2. Applicability**

  - 7.2.1 Any Ringette Alberta registered team participating in the leagues specified in 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 for competition specified in 7.2.4.
  - 7.2.2 The Chinook League or its successor.
  - 7.2.3 The Black Gold League or its successor.
  - 7.2.4 All Ringette Alberta sanctioned games which include: exhibition games, league games; tournaments; and provincial championships.

### 3. Principles

1. It can be appropriate for an overage player to be allowed to participate at a younger age division.
2. The decision to allow overage players should be based on objective criterion as much as possible, including:
  - Team viability with and without the overage player(s)
  - Lack of other team options for the overage player(s) to play on
3. The inclusion of an overage player should be irrelevant to opposing teams provided the inclusion of the player does not affect the team's relative competitiveness or compromise player safety;
  - 3.1. Competitive equity is a measure of overall team success relative to competitors;
  - 3.2. Impact of an overage player on their safety or the safety of other players is a factor of ability, style of play and physical size, and not age.

**4. Requirements**

1. Permission to start the season;
  - 1.1. No requests are required to start the season provided there are no more than three (3) overage players on the same team roster. Teams with four (4) or more overage players must receive written permission from Ringette Alberta to start the season.
2. Teams are required to notify their league of any overage players on their roster on or before the date specified by the team's league and in the manner specified by the league. Failure to notify may result in the overage player being denied the right to participate in the competitions specified in 7.2.4.
3. Timelines
  - 3.1. Requests for overage player approval must be received by the overage player's team's league, on or before the date specified by the league and in the manner required by the league.
  - 3.2. A decision will be made by the leagues independently for their respective league play and jointly with the Competitions Committee for exhibition games, tournaments, playdowns and provincials no later than December 14<sup>th</sup> of the current playing season.
4. Approval
  - 4.1. Approval will be determined by applying the following guidelines:
    - 7.4. Skaters

5. Right of Appeal

The leagues' Provincial Decision is not appealable.

Prior to December 14th of the current season, the leagues retain the right to revisit their Provincial Decision.

**5. Definitions**

*Provincial Decision:* The decision made by the leagues specified in 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 at a common meeting involving both leagues for competition types specified in 7.2.4

**6. References**

2.0 Registration Policy  
21.0 Competitions Policy