

# Junior Coach Program

The purpose of Sault Ringette Club's (SRC) Junior Coach Program is to provide valuable mentorship and exposure to quality coaching for young athletes. SRC is committed to delivering opportunities for players to give back and continue in the sport of ringette in leadership roles.

The SRC Junior Coaching Program is designed to work on three levels.

## **Level 1: Introduction to Coaching**

This program is offered to registered players 11-17 years of age as September 1 of the current ringette season. Acting as on-ice support for our FUN1 and FUN2 house league teams, no prior qualifications are required to enter this program. The expectations are for the Intro Coaches to assist on-ice Coaches during practices sharing the skills and knowledge they've developed as a ringette player.

## **Level 2: Junior Coaching Program (House League)**

This program is offered to registered players 14-17 years of age as of November 15 of the current ringette season. Junior Coaches can graduate from Level 1 to Level 2 mid-season should they wish to and should the opportunity present itself. Junior Coaches at this level will be assigned to a FUN3-U12 house league division team.

To qualify to be a Junior Coach at this level, the following certification must be completed:

- Making Head Way eLearning Module

## **Level 3: Junior Coaching Program (Rep/Travel)**

This program is offered to registered players 14-17 years of age as of September 1 of the current ringette season. Junior Coaches who wish to support a rep/travel team must have first demonstrated competency at the Level 1 and/or Level 2 Junior Program(s). Preference may be given to registered players who have previously competed at the A or AA level.

To qualify to be a Junior Coach at this level, the following Ringette Ontario criteria must be met:

- Be a minimum 14 years of age; they may join a team mid-season (until December 15) as a Junior Coach once they turn 14
- A maximum of 17 years of age by September 1 of the current ringette season
- Register with the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP)
- Complete the following online courses by November 30 of the current playing season:
  - Coach Initiation in Sport eModule
  - Making Head Way eLearning Module

- Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders
- Junior Coaches are welcome to complete the Community Sport or Competition Introduction stream courses; however, it is not mandatory until they turn 18

### **Junior Coach Expectations**

Junior Coaches are expected to attend practices and games of the team as regularly as possible. Junior Coaches are always under the supervision of a qualified head coach/assistant coach and will only be placed on teams in a division younger than the Junior Coach. Head/Assistant coaches are responsible to provide leadership, guidance and opportunity during the season for Junior Coach participants on their team.

When determining Junior Coach placements, these considerations will also be taken into account:

- Teams will be permitted to have a maximum of two Junior Coaches as part of their bench staff
- Junior Coaches are not permitted on a bench staff in the same or older age category
- Junior Coaches must be registered with SRC as a player
- A Level 3 Junior Coach should not take the place of a certified Assistant Coach on the bench during tournaments or championship games
- Placements will take into consideration previous player and coaching experience as well as numbers of Junior Coaches, so there is flexibility with the progression between Junior Coaching levels

If you're interested in the Junior Coach program, please contact our Junior Coach Coordinator at [jrcoach@saultringette.com](mailto:jrcoach@saultringette.com). A call for interest will be issued at the start of each ringette season. Junior Coaches will be assigned to teams by the SRC Junior Coach Coordinator in partnership with the SRC Board. To manage the program fairly and provide on-going opportunities for participants, a Junior Coach can only be assigned to a team by the Junior Coach Coordinator.

### **Reminders for Head Coaches**

Communication between a Junior Coach and any bench staff member must follow the Rule of 2 be it online (e.g., email, team app, social media messenger) or in person. House League and rep/travel bench staff are required to Cc either the Junior Coach Coordinator and/or the parent/guardian of the Junior Coach.

SRC is a development club. As such, the Board will assign Junior Coaches to a team to support the development of our programs and members. *A Junior Coach is not considered the "female coach" until they are 18.*

This program is designed to empower and give a voice to future coaches. By taking on a Junior Coach, House League and Rep/Travel Coaches are expected to listen to the thoughts and suggestions of the Junior Coach, to provide them opportunities to lead drills/activities, etc.

For any questions or concerns, please email [jrcoach@saultringette.com](mailto:jrcoach@saultringette.com).