

**Welcome to the 2023/24 Ringette Season to U14 !!!**

My name is Pam Kennerd and I am your U14 Director for this season. I have 2 athletes currently playing in other age groups in SPRA and I know what a busy time of year this is for us all. We are in this together, I am here to assist you so please do not hesitate to reach out to me at any time.

**Please also go to our website because there is NEW and detailed information regarding Evaluations for the 2023/24 season for your review.**

**Important Dates are as follows: please note dates are subject to change with updates provided, and the times will follow shortly as we are confirming all our numbers for appropriate ice resources for each evaluation group:**

* **UAA drill preskates- your athlete will skate on either August 31 or September 1** (details of groups and times will be provided shortly)
* **UAA Assessments - UAA assessment will occur on September 3, 2023** (details of groups and times will be provided shortly)
* **Game Play Evaluations – Your athlete will skate on each of September 10, 12, and 14, 2023** (details of groups and times will be provided ahead of the skate)

Please check all equipment (now is a good time 😊) with your player for sizing, sharpness and condition to make sure your player feels fitted and ready to play, and double check equipment bags for all equipment before leaving the house. Our players are nervous and excited, and it is easy to feel thrown off when running late or forgetting a glove during evaluations. We want them to feel prepared, organized and calm during this time! They want to feel confident and ready to go!

  

**Coaching:**

If you are a new to coaching person and would like to be an on ice helper only, or would like to continue your coaching journey in a more official capacity, please click on the application on the website. Coaching or helping on the ice is always valued and we can always use more! It is a quick process to get you signed up and then you can get any certifications out of the way sooner than later. You don’t have to be aces on the skates or know how to play ringette well, we just need you!

**“Knock off the Rust” Skates:**

Does your player want to get on the ice prior to evaluations? We hear that! SPRA is offering Knock off the Rust skate times so please sign up soon! Details of cost ($20) and registration packages are available in the Registration area, please sign up on our website.

**AA Evaluations:**

If you have registered to tryout for AA, you will be contacted directly by the AA Director in a separate communication.

**Player Evaluations:**

**\*Please note, all dates or times are subject to change and will be available very shortly but the dates I am providing in this letter should be used as placeholders while we are doing our final counts to make sure we have all the ice resources we need in place\***

Evaluations….are a combination of UAA assessment drills and game play evaluations as you have probably already experienced. Once all of the evaluation sessions are completed, the Team Selection Committees will gather to create teams.

If you know your player needs help with their skates, it is important that your player knows to come out of the dressing room to meet you to tie their skates, or for equipment adjustments. Parents are not allowed to come and go from dressing rooms.

**UAA drill preskates- your athlete will skate on either August 31 or September 1:**

These are optional and SPRA encourages attendance as a refresher on the UAA drills and all ice time is good ice time, so if you can attend it is strongly supported! Your athlete’s ice time will be on either August 31 or September 1, 2023, and I will advise of groupings and times soon.

\*groupings and details of the above skates will be provided shortly\*

**UAA Assessments - UAA assessment will occur on September 3, 2023.**

\*groupings and details of the above skate times will be provided shortly\*

This is a required skate as part of SPRA’s evaluation for team placement. Absence from this skate will impact evaluation scoring and possibly team placement. When your athlete is checked in, we will be obtaining a preferred 1st and 2nd choice playing position to help us when organizing game play evaluations.

Competitive Thread is a third party provider of this testing service and SPRA shares this information with Ringette Alberta to assist us in appropriate team tiering and selections across the province.

Once we have completed UAA’s, we will create our evaluation groups and move to game play evaluations.

**Game Play Evaluations – Your athlete will skate on each of September 10, 12, and 14, 2023** (details of groups and times will be provided ahead of the skate)

There will be 3 game skate (shinny style) evaluations for U14 on the above dates:

Athletes may rotate through different positions.

Please arrive no later than 30 minutes before your ice time to check in, get your pinnie and head to the dressing room. At each skate, game play information will be provided so athletes know how the game play will be run (penalties, lines), they need to be dressed and ready to listen to pre-game information they are given by SPRA and officials.

Groups will be determined following UAA assessment and then after every skate. Players may be rotated through different positions.

Once all U14 evaluations have concluded, the Team Selection Committees will meet to assign players to teams. These teams will be announced within 48 hours and practices will begin shortly after.

A full breakdown of game play evaluation information is under the Evaluation tab on the website.

**Volunteers:**

We rely on volunteers (you!) to make these evaluations run smoothly. Once times are confirmed, I will need the following positions filled for each ice time. If you are able to volunteer please contact me directly.

**Volunteers needed for each session:**

• Welcome Desk – will need to arrive approximately 1 hour before session

• Bench Help – parents are not permitted to be on the same bench as their player, and coaching of players will not be permitted

• Time/Shot Clock

If you have any other questions, please contact me directly at:

u14director@sherwoodparkringette.ca.

**Again, please check out the brand new updated information on our website, under Evaluations, so many details to help you feel informed.**

**This is going to be a fantastic year! See you on the ice!**

*“Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!”*

**Pam Kennerd**

**SPRA U14 Director**

