POLICY TITLE: AFFILIATION POLICY

Effective Date: August 10, 2022

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 Player affiliation allows an association 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.** Player affiliation cannot be used to improve the compete of a team at the expense of ice time for a regular player.

1.2 The intent of player affiliation is to provide SGRA teams with "back-up" player options when a specific need exists. The purpose of player affiliation is team **viability**, not player development.

2.0 SCOPE

2.1 All Spruce Grove Ringette Association teams registered with Ringette Alberta may affiliate players who are also registered within our association and Ringette Alberta.

3.0 PRINCIPLES

3.1 All player affiliation within SGRA must comply with Ringette Alberta and Black Gold League (BGL) policies and guidelines. Refer to RAB policy 5.0 Player Affiliation for details. SGRA policy below supplements/exceptions what is already identified in RAB's policy.

3.2 Upon completion of the Division Team Selection an email will be provided to Head Coach for selection of affiliate players. Head Coach's input will be allowed for affiliate policy within Affiliation Policy. Affiliate players will be identified and selected from the next lowest level, utilizing data from initial player assessment/evaluation process and input from the current coaches. In some cases, it may be necessary to affiliate from more than one level or age division lower. (i.e. player availability, skill levels, conflicts with provincial playdowns and championship dates, etc.). Affiliate selection will be reviewed by the Division Director and Director of Player Development and Assessment and may include the President prior to submission to the Registrar.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Timelines - The deadline for Ringette Alberta to receive all Player Affiliation forms, without paying a late fee is set in the RAB Critical Date schedule of the currently playing season.

4.2 Fees - There are no additional registration fees for an affiliate player.

4.3 Guidelines:

4.3.1 Affiliate players (skaters and goalies) main responsibility is to her full-time team's schedule (practices, league games, exhibition games, playdowns, provincials and tournaments).

4.3.2 Affiliate Players (skaters) shall only be on a maximum of two rosters, one as a regular player and one as an affiliate player.

4.3.3 Refer to RAB policy 5.0 Player Affiliation for details, specification and playing time restrictions and/or limitations.

4.3.4 Coaches will offer equal opportunity to affiliates as replacement players by rotating with no single affiliate consistently chosen.

4.3.5 Parents/guardians of the affiliate, head coach and Division Director must be notified when the affiliate plays for the affiliated team. Approval from head coach also must not be unreasonably withheld.

4.3.6 The regular practice ice is for the regular rostered players (skaters and goalies) to have full development time and attention with their coaches and fellow players.

- Affiliate's coach is consulted first and approves
- Affiliate does not miss a team skate with their full time team
- Full ice practice and team size does not exceed 15 players
- Half ice practice and team is short by amount of players they are looking to affiliate for practice. For example, if team size is 13 and 1 player is missing team may affiliate 1 player for a half ice practice.
- All efforts are made to rotate affiliates

5.0 COMPLIANCE AND CONSEQUENCES

5.1 Further to the RAB Policy 5.0 Player Affiliation - Compliance and Consequences 5.4.19.1 through 5.4.19.3, any Coaches or members violating the SGRA Player Affiliation intent, guidelines and policy will be subject to disciplinary action by SGRA as follows (within the current playing season):

First Offense:	One (1) game suspension of Head Coach or Acting Head Coach pending investigation of the infraction.
Second Offense:	One (1) game suspension of Head Coach or Acting Head Coach pending investigation of the infraction.
Third Offense:	Three (3) game suspension of Head Coach or Acting Head Coach pending investigation of the infraction.

Any further infractions beyond the third offense in the same playing season will result in removal of head coach privileges and may not be limited to selection as a head coach for a future season.