**STRATHMORE MINOR RINGETTE ASSOCIATION**

**SCREENING POLICY**

**Preamble**

1. Screening of personnel and volunteers is an important part of providing a safe sporting environment and has become a common practice among sport clubs that provide programs and services. **Strathmore Minor Ringette Association** (hereinafter the “Club”) is responsible at law, to do everything reasonable to provide a safe and secure environment for participants in its programs, activities and events.
2. This Policy is one of several policy tools that the Club will use to fulfill its commitment to provide a safe environment and to protect its participants.

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of Screening is to identify individuals who may pose a risk to the Club and participants.

## Policy Statement

1. Not all individuals associated with the Club will be required to undergo Screening through a Police Records Check (“PRC”). The Club will determine, as a matter of policy, which designated categories of individuals will be subject to Screening.
2. For the purposes of this policy, **‘designated categories’** are those classes of persons who work closely with athletes and who occupy positions of trust and authority within the Club. Such designated categories include:
	1. All individuals in paid staff positions;
	2. All board members; and
	3. All Coaches appointed to a Club team.
3. It is the Club’s policy that:
4. Individuals in designated categories will be screened using PRCs. Failure to participate in the Screening process as outlined in this policy will result in ineligibility of the individual for the position.
5. The Club will not knowingly place in a designated category an individual who has a conviction for a **‘relevant offence’**, as defined in this policy. However, where the Executive Committee is of the opinion that, notwithstanding a conviction for a relevant offence a person can occupy a position in a designated category without adversely affecting the safety of the Club, an athlete or participant, through the imposition of such terms and conditions as are deemed appropriate, the Executive Committee may approve a person’s participation in a designated category.
6. If a person in a designated position subsequently is charged or receives a conviction for, or is found guilty of, a relevant office, they will report this circumstance immediately to the Club.
7. If a person in a designated position provides falsified or misleading information, that person will immediately be removed from their designated position and maybe subject to further discipline in accordance with the Club’s Discipline Policy.

**Executive Committee**

1. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Executive Committee of the Club; a committee of three - five persons comprised of the Executive Members of the Board of Directors. Quorum for the Executive Committee will be two (2) members.

1. The Executive Committee will carry out its duties, in accordance with the terms of this policy, independent of the Board of Directors of the Club.
2. The Executive Committee is responsible for reviewing all PRCs and, based on such reviews, making decisions regarding the appropriateness of individuals filling positions in designated categories within the Club. In carrying out its duties, the Executive Committee may consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer Screening specialists or any other person.

**Procedure**

1. Each person subject to this Policy will obtain and submit a PRC from their local Police Service. A letter of good standing from the person’s previous ringette organization may be required, in the case of a transfer from another club, out of province or country to the Club.
2. The PRC and letter of good standing, if required, will be submitted to the Executive Committee, c/o [Strathmore Minor Ringette Association] at its head office in an envelope marked “Confidential – Attention Executive Committee”.
3. Individuals who do not submit a PRC and letter of good standing, if required, prior to the deadline of October 15th, will receive a notice to this effect and will be informed that their position appointment will not proceed until such time as the PRC and letter of good standing, if required, is received.
4. After to its review of a PRC or letter of good standing, if required, the Executive Committee, by majority vote, will:
	* + 1. Approve an individual’s participation in a designated category; or
			2. Deny an individual’s participation in a designated category; or
			3. Approve an individual’s participation in a designated category subject to terms and conditions as the Executive Committee deems appropriate.
5. If an individual’s PRC or letter of good standing, if required, does not reveal a relevant offence; the Executive Committee will notify the Club President that the individual is eligible for the designated position. After providing notice, the Executive Committee will either maintain, return or destroy the original PRC or letter of good standing.
6. If an individual’s PRC or letter of good standing, if required, reveals a relevant offence; the Executive Committee will notify the Club President, render its decision and provide notice of its decision in accordance to paragraphs 14. After providing notice, the Executive Committee will either maintain, return or destroy the original PRC or letter of good standing.
7. The decisions of the Executive Committee are final and binding.
8. Nothing in this policy will prevent an individual from re-applying for a staff or volunteer position with the Club at some point in the future, and submitting a new PRC and letter of good standing, if required.
9. PRCs are valid for a period of two years. Notwithstanding this, the Executive Committee may request that a staff person or volunteer in a designated category provide a PRC to the Executive Committee for review and consideration. Such request will be in writing and will provide the reasons for such a request.

# Relevant Offences

1. For the purposes of this Policy, a ‘relevant offence’ is any of the following offences for which pardons have not been granted:
2. If imposed in the last five years:
	* 1. Any violation/offence involving the use of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to impaired driving; or
		2. Any violation/offence for trafficking and/or possession of drugs and/or narcotics.
		3. Any violation/offence involving conduct against public morals;
3. If imposed in the last ten years:
4. Any violation/offence of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault; or
5. Any violation/offence involving a minor or minors.
6. If imposed at any time:
	* 1. Any violation/offence involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography;
		2. Any sexual violation/offence involving a minor or minors; or
		3. Any violation/offence involving theft or fraud.

**Written Records**

1. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, or for use in legal, quasi-legal or disciplinary proceedings.