



Approval & Version Control	
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ST. THOMAS RINGETTE ASSOCIATION

“24 HOUR RULE” POLICY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 St. Thomas Ringette Association (STRA) is committed to providing a positive learning and competitive environment where all individuals are treated with respect. Being a member of STRA should be a positive, rewarding and beneficial experience for all players, coaches, families, officials, and volunteers.
- 1.2 We understand that Ringette can be a passionate sport and we all share in the common objective of ensuring the sport is fair and safe for all. Unfortunately, there are issues that arise from time to time and must be respectfully, professionally, and appropriately managed. As a result, STRA adopted the following policy.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1 To ensure that all individuals are treated fairly and with respect, we encourage all STRA members to communicate in a positive manner and to follow certain guidelines when discussing issues about practices, games and all team events. STRA fully endorses our Code of Conduct and encourages all members to follow proper procedures when dealing with sensitive issues.



3. POLICY

3.1 When an issue occurs and a party has a resulting complaint to make or issue to be resolved, they are to wait 24 hours, then put the issue in writing and submit it to the appropriate party. Whether this issue is labelled as coaching error, team mate interference, parent conflict or any other of a number of possible situations, it is very important that all parties involved take the full 24 hours to remove or decrease the emotional element so that the actual issue can be resolved quickly, in a civilized manner, and to everyone's satisfaction.

4. EXCEPTIONS TO THE 24-HOUR WAITING PERIOD

4.1 In any situation where an incident involves physical harm, threat of physical harm, or any form of abuse (including but not limited to assault, injury, or credible threat thereof), the 24-hour waiting period is waived.

4.2 The affected party, witness, or responsible adult must immediately report the incident to the appropriate authority, which may include a board member, coach, team manager, association official, or law enforcement, as required by the circumstances.

4.3 Immediate action will be taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all individuals involved. The STRA will initiate appropriate investigations or interventions in accordance with organizational and legal obligations.

4.4 All incidents must be documented in writing, and the association will provide access to support services as needed.

5. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

5.1 Failure to abide by the 24-hour period will result in the following action:

- 1st Offense - Reminder of the policy with written warning.
- 2nd Offense - meeting with individual(s) involved and removal of player and/or individual(s) involved from all STRA and team activities (games, practices, events) for a period determined by the disciplinary committee.



- Any further offenses will be reviewed and appropriate disciplinary action determined by the STRA Disciplinary Committee. If any offense results in a breach of the Code of Conduct or this policy, further disciplinary action may be taken, which could include a full season suspension from STRA events / games.

5.2 STRA endorses a positive and respectful environment for all individuals. All players, families, coaches, officials, and volunteers are expected to behave and communicate in a positive, professional manner at all times for the betterment of all involved. Actions, statements, and decisions should be made in the best interest of STRA, its players, families, and volunteers.