



U12 Team Formation Procedures

From Ringette Ontario:

U12 TEAM FORMATION OBJECTIVES:

Teams are formed within each Club and participate in a system of competition following the program principles focused on sport for life, long-term athlete development and long-term participant development. All Clubs can support community-based “Club” teams, built around skill development, fun, and age groups.

Ringette Ontario *encourages smaller roster sizes for U12 Club teams* to facilitate increased ring touches, player engagement and overall enjoyment of the game. In addition, smaller rosters assist with the following player development initiatives:

- Increased engagement for all players as they are more active during practices and games
- Increased opportunities to experience playing different positions
- Increased opportunity for skill development
- Increased opportunity for players to experience different game situations; and
- Increased opportunities for coaches to train and develop all the athletes on their team while recognizing individual skill levels of players.

Players in the U12 division will be evaluated for placement on A, B, C tiered teams in a manner which is standardized, fair, transparent and provides meaningful competition using a series of evaluation sessions.

[RO U12 Team Formation Guidelines](#)

[RO U12 Team Formation FAQs](#)

WRRRA PROCEDURES:

Decisions around team formation for the U12 age group will be left up to associations. WRRRA encourages associations to work together to form the best combination of teams for the area. There are some parameters that must be followed:

1. Evaluations at U12 can occur on or after September 1st, 2023
2. If evaluations are completed, they must be completed for all players in the age group, not just for “A” level as has been done in the past.
3. Evaluations need to be completed by qualified evaluators and not the coach alone



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4. When evaluations occur, there must be two for every player, coaches/associations can then add additional evaluations and be “invite only” scenarios.
5. All U12 teams will be categorized as mixed
6. No U12 team can have more than 2 overagers unless approved by the WRRRL (if only 1 or 2 overagers no approval needed)
7. All U12 divisions will have the same amount of games per season and at tournaments
8. All U12 teams will have the opportunity to play in the RO U12 year end event if they choose to do so

WHAT COULD THIS POSSIBLY LOOK LIKE?

1. Associations could work independently
 - a. Example: Forest tends to be able to host U12A, and a U12B team (sometimes 2). Forest would hold evaluations of all U12 players, rank them and then create their teams. They could have U12A, U12B and U12C or could have U12A, and balanced U12B teams - this would be up to the association
2. Associations could work together
 - a. London, Dorchester, Tillsonburg, Mitchell, St. Mary's and St. Thomas could choose to work together. They could ask families to indicate which level they believe their child would be best suited at and if they were willing to travel to a different association - similar to the provincial intent form, but would include all levels.
 - b. The 6 associations could then look at numbers and agree which associations would host each level. It may be decided that there are enough players to make 3 U12A teams and 6 U12B/C teams. Each association knows they will get a U12B/C team. Three associations will be chosen to host the 3 U12A teams. The group decides the following associations will be combined: London/St.Thomas, Dorchester/Tillsonburg and Mitchell/St. Mary's. All U12 players will go to the combined evaluations to form the teams. The important piece is that all players are looked at and evaluated - not just those hoping to be on a U12A team - as all teams are now regional.
 - c. Another option could be each association evaluates all U12 players for their association. They create their team first and any excess players would be released to go to other associations evaluations



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- d. Associations could get creative to form teams - the idea is to work together, be fair in evaluations of all players, do what is best for the players and the sport of ringette

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OTHER INFORMATION

- These teams are regional, any rules that apply to player movement for provincial level of play do not apply at the U12 age group - in other words there is no “home” vs. “current”. This will start at the U14 age group
- A host needs to be declared for RAMP and TRFs only. Transfer of player will need to happen in RAMP and as a result, release forms will need to be filed
- Players will register in their home association and pay the fees. Once teams are formed, the associations will work together to figure out transfer of payments if needed
- For game play, each team will be asked to submit ice to the ice scheduler of WRRRL and they just need to identify which rink the ice is for - practices and games could be split evenly between combined associations