

WRRR AA/A Team Declaration and Tryout Process 2021-

August 1, 2021

The following document sets out important timelines that must be met in proceeding through the player declaration, team tryout and team selection process. This process should facilitate informed communication between Western Region and its member Associations. It should help to identify potential conflicts so that they can be dealt with in a timely and mutually respectful manner, allowing the process to move along to completion.

If there is one thing parents want, it is to see their child enjoying themselves and getting better at playing the great sport of Ringette. This is what makes Provincial Ringette a worthwhile investment. Let us be reminded of this value, remembering it is the players who make this great sport what it is. This document is designed to assist parents and players better understand the tryout process.

Goal

The primary goal of the Western Region is to work cooperatively to create as many competitive teams at each competition and age level within the Region as possible, and thereby ensuring that qualified players have a place to play.

Objectives

- 1) To improve communication among Western Region member associations and teams through documentation and preliminary meetings.
- 2) To increase the transparency of the process by ensuring that everyone knows what the steps are and how decisions are to be made.
- 3) To continue to enhance the player-tracking process.
- 4) To form an Evaluation Committee to monitor the process. The Committee will include a diverse representation of individuals from across our Region and would be empowered to enforce all steps and associated actions as identified in the process.
- 5) To implement a timeline for the completion for the AA and A tryout process.
- 6) To help facilitate the number of teams, the distribution of teams throughout the Region, as well as to help provide the most beneficial selection of teams to qualified players within Western Region.

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Intent-to-Tryout Forms

- **All Western Region players** intending to try out for any A or AA Provincial level team are required to complete the online Intent-to-Tryout Form no later than **June 30, 2021**.
- Players will not be allowed to participate in any tryout session without having completed the online form. Any player intents submitted after June 30, 2021 will only be accepted via an email to Peter Westelaken peter.west@live.ca from the respective Association President or Provincial Representative Convener.
- Players from outside of Western Region who move into our region due to relocation for post-secondary education or other legitimate reasons should register their intent as soon as they make the commitment to move, rather than waiting to physically arrive in the Region. For instance, a player moving into the Region to attend university (i.e. Guelph, London or Waterloo) should indicate their intent to play at the A or AA level as soon as they accept their offer of admission, allowing our member associations to include these players in their planning process.
- **NEW - Presidents/Registrars will send a list of registered players who have their intents in from their association to Peter Westlake so that a running record of registered players will be available to ALL associations during tryouts. These lists should be sent by August 30th, with an update sent by September 23rd. Associations may update Peter at different times as well as new registrations come in.**

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AA Team Formation – U12A / U14AA / U16AA /U19AA

- Associations must complete the Willing-to-Host Form and submit the form to the Evaluation Committee by **Sunday August 22, 2021** if they wish to qualify to host a Provincial AA Level teams for the 2019-2020 season.
- Evaluation Committee may host a meeting on **Tuesday August 24, 2021** and schedule individual meetings with every Association intending to host AA teams to review their forms.
- AA Tryout schedules should be posted no earlier than **Monday August 30, 2021** and no later than **Sunday September 12, 2021** and with the statement included that **“all teams are subject to WRRR Provincial Play Evaluation Committee approval.”**
- Each Association hosting a AA team may not begin tryouts until **Friday, Sept 24, 2021** and must have completed at least 2 tryout sessions by **Sunday October 3, 2021**. The online form identifying the players who attended the tryout must be reported within 24 hours. The Association must also provide the Evaluation Committee with an update regarding the status of the team.
- As each tryout is completed & players are released from the list of potential team members, the Association must email the Player Tracking Coordinator, Peter Westelaken peter.west@live.ca with the list of players released. This must be done within 24 hours of the player being released.
- All AA tryouts should be completed by **Sunday Oct 10, 2021**. The Offer to Play Letter and Roster Spot Not Offered Letter shall be used by all Associations within the Region.
- U14AA, U16AA & U19AA team rosters must be declared by **Wednesday Oct 13, 2021**.
- Should any association encounter difficulties in declaring rosters by the deadline, please notify WRRR Provincial Play Committee and seek guidance.

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A Team Formation - U14A/U16A/U19A

- Associations must complete the Willing-to-Host Form and submit the form to the Evaluation Committee by **Sunday August 22, 2021** if they wish to qualify to host a Provincial A Level team for the 2017-2018 season.
- Evaluation Committee may host a meeting on **Tuesday August 24, 2021** and schedule individual meetings with every Association intending to host A teams to review their forms.
- A Tryout schedules should be posted no earlier than **Monday August 30, 2021** and no later than **Sunday September 12, 2021** and with the statement included that **“all teams are subject to WRRR Provincial Play Evaluation Committee approval.”**
- Each Association hosting an A team may not begin tryouts until **Friday October 8, 2021** and must have completed at least 2 tryout sessions by **Sunday October 17, 2021**. The online form identifying the players who attended the tryout must be reported within 24 hours. The Association must also provide the Evaluation Committee with an update regarding the status of the team.
- As each tryout is completed and players are released from the list of potential team members, the Association must email the Player Tracking Coordinator, Peter Westelaken with the list of players that were released. This must be done within 24 hours of the player being released.
- All A tryouts should be completed by **Sunday October 24, 2021**. The Offer to Play Letter and Roster Spot Not Offered Letter shall be used by all Associations within the Region.
- Provincial A team rosters must be declared by **Wednesday October 27, 2021**.
- Players who submit Intents for “AA” but were not offered a roster spot at AA will automatically be registered to have an “A” Intent to Tryout
- Should any association encounter difficulties in declaring rosters by the deadline, please notify WRRR Provincial Play Committee and seek guidance.

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Team Composition Requirements:

- In order to qualify to host a Provincial level team an association **must** meet the minimum number of Provincial caliber Home Association or Current Association players listed in the chart below. The **final team roster** must meet or exceed the number of home and current players identified in the chart below. See attached definitions for 'current' players.

Team Composition Chart – A Teams

U12A U14A U16A U19A

Roster Size	Home or Current Players	Home or Current Players	Home or Current Players	Home or Current Players
10	8*	7*	6*	5*
11	9	8	6	5
12	10	8	7	6
13	11	9	8	6
14	12	10	8	7
15	12	10	9	7
16	13	11	9	8
17	14	12	10	8
18	15	12	10	9

*Minimum number unless approved by Evaluation Committee

Team Composition Chart – AA Teams

U14AA U16AA U19AA

Roster Size	Home or Current Players	Home or Current Players	Home or Current Players
10	6*	5*	5*
11	7	5	5
12	8	6	5
13	8	6	5
14	8	7	5
15	9	7	6
16	9	8	6
17	10	8	6
18	10	9	7

*Minimum number unless approved by Evaluation Committee

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- Neighbouring Associations (closest neighbour as per Matrix), that wish to host, but do not meet the minimum roster numbers, may indicate their willingness to host a **Combined Team**. The request may be granted, if none of their immediate neighbours can satisfy the criteria or meet the criteria but are not willing to host. The **Combined Team** must clearly identify one centre as the **HOME Association** in the Willing to Host form for the current playing year and have signed acknowledgement from the respective Presidents of these Associations. This declared HOME will establish the reference for player movement within the Region. The formation of this Combined Team does not supersede the Closest Association per the Matrix.

Willing-to-Host Form

The Willing-to-Host Form will provide the Region and the Evaluation Committee with advanced, valid information regarding an Association's bid to host one or more Provincial teams. It will also assist Associations with communicating their intentions clearly.

- It is important for all Associations to understand that the criteria identified in the Team Declaration Chart will be used by the Evaluation and Overview Committee to determine the strength of an Association's bid for a Provincial level team.
- The Evaluation Committee has the latitude to qualify a Willing-to-Host bid where the criteria are not met but the situation warrants the formation of a team in that part of the region or the number of opportunities available to match player intent support and the need for another team or teams.

Player Release Form for Final Release

NEW

- It is critical that all parties understand and treat the Player Release Form like a contract. Once signed, the parties are bound by the agreement. The team is committed to the player and the player is committed to the team. This form is only needed once an offer to play letter is received. <https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/RO-Player-Release-Form-1.pdf>

Tryouts

- A player may attend as many tryouts as they wish.
- Tryouts are conducted by each Association in keeping with their established Operating Procedures. However, the timelines contained in this document should be incorporated into these various procedures.

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Final Roster Requirements

- A 'full' roster meets the requirements of ORA for number of players needed to play in Sanctioned Events. Clearly roster size within those constraints is the decision of the Coach/Association. Teams can leave space to add a player or two after this date – especially at the U19 level where post-secondary player movement occurs. This roster should include a full complement of players for the team, including at least one goalie.

Evaluation Committee

- An Evaluation Committee will be formed to coordinate the AA/A process.
- The mandate for this committee will be to review and/or meet with each Association that is willing to host an AA/A team, review their submitted forms and ensure that the minimum criteria are met. The committee will then recommend for approval the number of AA/A teams at the respective levels covered by this process (U12, U14, U16 and U19). The recommendations of this committee will be binding.
- The committee will include the WRRR Provincial Play Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, Western Region Membership Services Representative along with 2 nominated WRRR Provincial Play Committee Representatives.
- The committee will have the authority to ensure that proper tryout procedures are being followed by associations and to recommend the levy of up to a \$500 fine and loss of team for Associations not following the rules and processes in place.

Recruitment & Solicitation of Players

- Any recruitment or solicitation of players by associations, Coaches/Bench Staff is **completely prohibited** and the consequence of this action may result in a fine and loss of team
- No Offers to Play may be made until the Home and/or Current Associations have made "Roster Spot Not Offered" releases or no team is being hosted by the Home or Current Associations. This process must follow the Closest Association Matrix.

Terms as defined in Operating Manual – ORA

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Releasing Association

The Local Association in whose Boundaries the player resides, or the Local Association to whom the player has been released for three consecutive seasons as per Article 8.6. In either case, this is the Local Association from whom the player wishes to be released.

Receiving Association

The Local Association to whom a player wishes to Be released.

Two Team Player

A Regional player that plays on a local association team, and also plays on a Provincial A or AA team through terms agreed upon in a written "Playing Agreement".

Home Region

The region which your home association resides.

Home Association

The local association to which the player is eligible to play by residency.

Closest Association

Governed by the player's Home Region Policy.

Current Association

The association to which a player has been released for level of play will then be considered the player's "Current Association".

Residency

Refers to where the player habitually resides. A player's residence shall be defined as the structure in which the player is a permanent resident. Any determination of the address of the structure shall always be from the main entrance of such residence.

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Willing-to-Host a Provincial Team

This Form is to provide Western Region and its Associations with information regarding the declaring of a team(s). The data will be used to help determine the number of potential teams and the availability of players prior to tryouts.

Association Name: _____

Level of Play Offered: A AA

Age Division: U12
 U14
 U16
 U19

NOTE: a separate form must be submitted for each age division

Qualified Coach
(name): _____

Key Contact for Team during Tryouts:

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Association President(s) agree to this Provincial team Submission and confirms ice availability to support the team. If Combined Team, both Association Presidents must sign.

Print Name

Sign Name

Date

WRRRA Provincial Level Play Committee

- Roster Spot Not Offered –

Date: _____ 2021

Name: _____

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for attending the

_____ Association tryouts for the 2021-2022 season.

At this time, there will NOT be a position offered to you to play for the

_____ Association Team

(Please circle where appropriate) U12 U14 U16 U19 **A** **AA**

If you have any other questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Head Coach: _____ Phone: _____

Association: _____ Email: _____

There are some options available to you. Feel free to explore these. Best of luck to you this season.

Attend tryouts for the _____ association (as per matrix).

Become part of our Regional Program here in _____ .

WRRRA Provincial Level Play Committee

- Offer to Play Letter-

Date: _____ 2021

Name: _____

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for attending the
_____ Association tryouts for the 2021-2022 season.

Expectations for the team members will be to attend scheduled team dry land training sessions and weekly on ice practices. The team will be participating in _____ tournaments from November to February with the goal of playing in the Provincials in March 2022. This will require full commitment at all times for the entire season.

You have been selected to play for the _____ Association Team

(Please circle where appropriate) U12 U14 U16 U19 **A** **AA**

Please confirm your acceptance with the understanding of our expectations as listed above with a return email within the next **48** hours.

If I do not receive a written reply (email is accepted) to this offer letter within the timeline indicated above it will be considered a

DECLINE of this Offer to Play.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact me.

Head Coach: _____ Phone: _____

Association: _____ Email: _____