

2018/19 TIERING AND EVALUATIONS

MEMORANDUM

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Authors:

Nicole Robb, BA

Becky Adams, BKin

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1. Tiering and Evaluations

This Memorandum is a refresher for Associations on implementation of evaluation based team formation and requirement for Associations to use standardized player evaluations. Evaluation based team formation and the use of exhibition-competition or “tiering” rounds to determine a team’s appropriate caliber of play is replacing the tiering form and player provincial points system used by the U14, U16, U19 divisions. Leagues can determine how the 18+ division teams’ calibers will be determined.

Over the past two season Ringette BC has been moving towards an evaluation-based team formation system, a team declaration, and a stronger tiering competition system for determining caliber of play for teams. The direction to move away from the reliance on the tiering form was a result of the lack consistency of the tiering form in determining where a team should tier. The player points system utilized in the tiering form is *not* reflective of skill or experience level of a player. Players were gaining points for participating in competitions regardless of their skill or impact at the competition on this antiquated form.

For example, a player who participated in the BC Winter Games on the Zone 6 Island team in 2018 will gain the same amount of player points as a player who played on the Zone 4 team. The Zone 4 team placed second overall and the replacement players placed 8th; however, both players are being allocated the same amount of points. Points do not reflect skill or ability of individual players.

In 2016 Ringette BC introduced the U12 ordinal scoring system to assist Associations in placing their U12 aged players into teams that are balanced with player skills. The ordinal system is also to assist Jamborees with forming competition pools for the teams to play teams of like skill and ability.

In 2017 the U14 division was provided with standardized skill evaluation criteria charts. As discussed at two successive AGMs, and as posted online, every player in the U14 division was to be evaluated using the same criteria across BC.

For the 2018-2019 season Ringette BC is implementing standardized evaluation criteria to all players in U14, U16 and U19. Leagues need to be cognizant that teams will be seeking to register in tournaments for November.

2. U12 Evaluations

Associations need to use the U12 scoring criteria to create individual player ordinals. The U12 player ordinals, while confidential, can be used in aggregate for various purposes including: team formation; coach evaluation; targeted development opportunities; etc.

Associations should consider forming teams with smaller rosters within the same caliber of play to allow for more player sharing opportunities and to develop skills more widely across the players.

Associations must understand that a key consideration of determining caliber is based on access to meaningful competition. The evaluations are to help establish a team ordinal, not to single out players. Associations with enough kids for multiple teams should create equal teams where geography or other factors otherwise hinder meaningful competition. For instance, an Association should not create an A-level team when that team would not have access to other local A teams to play games. Further, associations with a wide range of players with similar ordinals should also consider forming equal teams at the U12 level.

Above all, associations must recognize that U12 is part of the Learn to Train stage of development and is a crucial development stage, and that the overall objective is to have participants develop and learn overall sports skills and to develop as many players as possible, and also to retain as many players as possible. As U12 is a non-competitive division where the objective is overall development and retention Ringette BC will not recognize U12 player releases that state, “Caliber of play does not exist within my Association”. As a non-competitive division where Associations should do their best to form as many teams as possible from within their Association players should not be seeking release for caliber of play.

Each Association will form teams and provide the assigned Coach with an aggregate team ordinal. Jamborees and Leagues will use the team ordinals to assist with creating competition pools. The first six (6) intra-Association games should be used for tiering purposes, and match ups should be intentional to create **meaningful competition** between teams. Teams that have received a higher ordinal and their coach deems them to be of a higher level of skill should not be scheduled to play against teams with lower ordinals.

Sanctioned Events, Jamborees and other Tournaments need to work to pool teams together based on their ordinals versus strictly on their team declared caliber (i.e. A or B). For example, if a team declares they are a “B” caliber team but their ordinal is less than 2, efforts should be made to place that team in a pool of other teams that have lower ordinals.

For further details on U12 please review the [U12 Guidelines](#). U12 Evaluations can be found by [clicking here](#).

3. U14, U16 and U19 Player Evaluations

All players across the province will be evaluated using standardized criteria and the existing forms. This includes all Associations, including those where only a single team will be formed. Once evaluations are completed Associations will form their teams at the U14, U16 and U19 levels using the results from the evaluations to assist them with decisions on team formation.

☉ **Best Practices:**

- Associations must use the Ringette BC player evaluations for U14, U16, and U19.
- Evaluations for U14, U16 and U19 can be found by [clicking here](#).
- Teams are formed based on the results of the player evaluations.
- Coaches will have access to all evaluations forms to assist them in team formation.
- The top evaluated player in an evaluation may not score a “5” on the scorecard because evaluations are criteria based verses ranking based. Meaning players are not scored or ranked against each other.
- All player movement requests will require an evaluation to support the request by any Association to retreat a player to a lower division, or to place them in a higher division.

4. U14, U16, U19 Exhibition Competition Round

Following team formation, teams in each division will participate in a League exhibition-competition game or “tiering” round.

Exhibition rounds will begin at the Leagues discretion. All exhibition rounds must be completed by the team declaration deadline of November 1st. Leagues will submit their team declarations to Ringette BC by November 1st.

☉ **U14, U16 and U19 Tiering Round:**

- The U14, U16 and U19 teams tiering round will require a minimum of 4 to 6 tiering games between teams. The number of tiering games will be determined based on the number of team within the league and the geographical barriers to competition of the league.
- All teams must participate in a tiering round to assist the Leagues in confirming their division declarations.
 - For example, if a league has 5 teams or less they can host 4 tiering games.
 - If a league has between 6 and 8 teams they must host a minimum of 5 tiering games.
 - If a league has 9 or more teams they must host a minimum of 6 tiering games.
- During the tiering round teams will play against teams of the same declared caliber with the potential for some cross over games with teams who have declared a lower caliber. If no other teams declare the same caliber and only one team has declared all teams will participate in the tiering round together.
 - Example, there are 5 teams that declare U14B and one team declares U14A. The U14B teams will play against the U14A team.
 - Example, if there are 6 teams and 3 teams declare A and 3 teams declare B. The teams will play against the other teams of the same declared caliber and then there will be a cross over game between the A teams and the B teams.

- The League has the authority to advance or retreat teams based on their performance during tiering and their player evaluations.
 - For example, if a team plays 6 tiering games and has declared U14B and goes undefeated in all 6 games and the scores of those games indicate the team was dominating play the League has full authority to advance that team to U14A.
- If a team is advanced or retreated by the League they have the ability to appeal to Ringette BC. Team appeals are subject to the Ringette BC appeals process and fine.
- Tiering rounds should not include League AA teams as part of the schedule. The outcome of the games does not contribute to determining the caliber of teams in these divisions.
- Ringette BC reserves the right to retreat or advance any team until February 15th.
- If teams wish to file for advancement or retreat later in the season for Provincial Championships they must do so by December 31st.

The philosophy of increased tiering games is to put increased emphasis on the competition between teams and allow the athletes to have more of a direct impact on determining where their team fits best within the league and provincial competition.

5. Ringette Canada's Guiding Principles of Competition – All Divisions

To pledge to the Ringette Canada Guiding Principles of Competition [click here](#).

- 1) Ringette experiences are **meaningful for all participants and teams** from the beginning to the end of each season.
- 2) Ringette is always a **fun, positive experience**.
- 3) Every ringette participant, coach, official, volunteer and administrator has an opportunity to improve.
- 4) The system of competition (tournaments, leagues and championships) supports each participant in seeking their level of **personal excellence** based on their definition of success. Participants can **choose to enroll** in a program which places them on the **excellence pathway**.
- 5) Nobody is disadvantaged by playing at a “lower” level. Participants are provided access to appropriate development pathways to progress to a “higher” level if they desire.
- 6) The system of competition supports and rewards LTAD-based training informed by **Ringette Canada's Athlete Development Matrix**.
- 7) Competition reflects the **True Sport Principles** and the values of Ringette Canada.

If you have questions regarding the above memo please do not hesitate to email the Ringette BC Executive Director at executivedirector@bcringette.org or call 604-629-6583.