

## 1.4 TEAM FORMATION POLICY

### A. COMPETITIVE AND COMMUNITY DIVISIONS

- i. The purpose of the Team Formation policy is to guide Club Associations and Leagues to create teams that provide meaningful competition.
- ii. Ringette BC provides a Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) stage-appropriate Athlete Pathway for participants in all divisions:
  - Players in Fundamentals<sup>1</sup> and Fundamentals<sup>2</sup> develop skills in a fun way.
  - Players in U10 learn the game in an engaging environment.
  - Players in the U12 division who are interested in an introduction to the competitive level are offered *additional* development opportunities.
  - Players in the U14 to U19 divisions can choose to evaluate for placement on a Competitive Division Team or be placed on a Community Division team.
- iii. Evaluations are mandatory from U12 up.
- iv. U14 to U19 Competitive Teams have a season goal of competing at the Western Canadian Ringette Championships and are required to attend at least one tournament or one play weekend per season in each of the Provincial Leagues hosting a Competitive Team in that division.
- v. U14 to U19 Community teams play with the goal of competing at the Ringette BC Provincial Championships and may attend tournaments at the discretion of the team.
- vi. Further information on each division can be found in the current Ringette BC guidelines for the Community and Competitive divisions.

### B. FUN1 and FUN2 TEAM FORMATION

- i. FUN1 and FUN2 participants should practice together as a group.
- ii. Squads should be created as equally as possible for game play to facilitate meaningful competition.
- iii. A squad for FUN1 should be 10 to 12 participants.
- iv. A squad for FUN2 should not exceed 12 participants.
- v. Associations should use the FUNdamentals 1 & 2 Assessment criteria to assist with balancing squads. Assessments can be done multiple times throughout the year to track participant development.

### C. U10 TEAM FORMATION

- i. Teams are formed within each individual Club Association.
- ii. Club Associations should aim to create as many balanced U10 teams as possible. Smaller rosters are encouraged at U10 to engage as many participants as possible in events.
- iii. Teams may be formed using simple assessment criteria and Coach input, or by player draft between Head Coaches. In either case, the Club Association is responsible for overseeing the creation of the rosters.
- iv. Two (2) to four (4) balancing games between teams in the same Club Association will take place prior to the roster deadline. Players may be moved between teams to ensure the teams are fair prior to the roster deadline.
- v. Newly registered players will be added to the existing rosters with care to maintain equality between the existing teams.
- vi. Leagues should consider season to date results when scheduling League play to influence meaningful competition.

### D. U12 TEAM FORMATION

- i. All players will be evaluated against individual skill development levels per the appropriate divisional guidelines.
- ii. Evaluators must be impartial, and therefore may not include divisional Head Coaches or other coaching staff, or the parents of players being evaluated.
- iii. Club Associations must follow the standardized evaluation procedures and skill matrices provided by Ringette BC for U12.
- iv. When there are enough players to form more than one team, will form balanced teams using player ordinals and Coach input, or by player draft between Head Coaches. In either case, the Club Association is responsible for overseeing the creation of the rosters.
- v. Newly registered players will be added to the existing rosters with care to maintain equality between the existing teams.
- vi. New players registering in the U12 division after the January 1<sup>st</sup> U12 Roster Deadline date are welcome to join and play with the team in sanctioned and unsanctioned events but are not eligible to participate in the Ringette BC U12 Year-end Event.
- vii. Final team rosters must be submitted to Ringette BC by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each playing season. They can be updated as new players register.

- viii. Movement of players between teams in the U10 and U12 divisions is only permitted after January 1<sup>st</sup> if there is unanimous support from the Divisional Head Coaches and the Club Association's board of directors.
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#### E. U14, U16 and U19 TEAM FORMATION

- i. Player Evaluations:
  1. All players will be evaluated against individual skill development levels to establish a player ordinal.
  2. Club Associations must follow the standardized evaluation procedures and skill matrices provided by Ringette BC for both the Competitive and Community Divisions at U14, U16, and U19.
  3. Evaluators must be impartial, and therefore may not include Divisional Head Coaches or other coaching staff, or the parents or guardians of players being evaluated.
  4. Leagues may provide additional evaluation opportunities for those players wishing to participate in the Competitive Division. However, the player ordinal is the primary consideration for player selection.
- ii. Team formation specific to the Community Division:
  1. When there are enough players to form more than one team, it will be the Club Association's responsibility, through a designated coordinator or coordinators, to create balanced teams based on player ordinals.
  2. Community Division teams can include both female and male players.
  3. Final team rosters must be submitted to Ringette BC by November 1<sup>st</sup> of each playing season. Changes to these rosters are not permitted after this date without the written consent of Ringette BC.
- iii. Team formation specific to the Competitive Division:
  1. Competitive Teams are formed from the designated geographic zones (see Appendix A – Zone Boundaries). Each zone team is representative of two or more Associations.
  2. Competitive teams are female only or male only.
  3. Zone teams for the U14, U16 and U19 divisions in each geographic zone will be formed based on Player Evaluation numbers as outlined below:

Number of athletes at Player Evaluations	Minimum Number of Teams	Roster Size
11-34	1	11-13
35-50	2	11-13
51-70	3	11-13
71+	4	11-13

4. If a Zone is able to create more than one Competitive Division team, the teams will be created as equally as possible through a player draft. Such draft will involve each Head Coach as representatives and drafters for their individual teams.
5. If a Zone does not have sufficient players to form a Competitive Division team, any player wishing to evaluate in another Zone is eligible to obtain a release to attend Player Evaluations in the appropriate adjacent zone, subject to any applicable Ringette BC Policy.
6. The League encompassing each zone is responsible for selecting a Head Coach by August 1<sup>st</sup> of each season, in adherence to the Team Staff Selection policy in the Ringette BC Governance Policy. The League will form a Coach Selection Committee with two representatives designated by the League, one representative designated by each Club Association in the Zone (normally the Association's President or Director of Coaching), and one representative from Ringette BC.
7. The Head Coach will make the final player selection decisions for each Competitive Zone team. Final player selection must include the top 70% of players ordinals by position (offence, defence) as determined by the evaluation process and includes the right to one veto of the top 70%. The remaining 30% of the roster and the goaltender(s) are at the discretion of the Head Coach.
8. Each Competitive Division team will have a maximum of 13 players for any exhibition, league or tournament game. Teams electing to participate in games and tournaments with less than 13 players may do so, provided they have at least nine (9) players.
9. Each Competitive Division team is permitted to roster up to three (3) affiliate players who are eligible for pick up to replace absent or missing players from the original team roster. The affiliated players must have attended evaluations for the Competitive Division team.
10. Final Competitive Division Team rosters must be submitted to Ringette BC by September 5<sup>th</sup> of each season. Roster changes will only be permitted after this date at the discretion of Ringette BC, in extenuating circumstances.
11. All U14, U16, and U19 Competitive Division Teams must submit a deposit to Ringette BC as part of the Commitment to Attend process. The amount for the deposit for Western Canadian Ringette Championships is \$5000.00. The deposit will be held in trust by Ringette BC and will be returned to the team after the completion of the event.

