

September 17, 2020

***Message from Ringette BC***

Dear League and Club Association Presidents and Board Members,

Thank you again for all your hard work and dedication to get the season started. It has been a lot of change along the way and Ringette BC would like you to know that we greatly appreciate everything you do for the sport of Ringette.

***Reminder Sanctioned Events***

As directed by Ringette Canada in their [communication today](#), Ringette BC would like to remind all of our Leagues and Club Associations that coaches and players should not be hosting unsanctioned events. Participation in unsanctioned activities could result in disciplinary action. It is important that all of our participants engage in activities that are sanctioned by Ringette BC and local Club Associations. Participation in unsanctioned events could create unnecessary financial harm to our organizations, have a negative impact on the sport of ringette, and puts our participants and coaches at risk for COVID-19.

***Return to Ringette Update – Cohort Model***

Under Ringette Progression 3, a cohort is 50 people OR four teams. If a Club Association is able to form four teams in an age division within their Club Association, this is a cohort and can be a good starting place for playing games within the community.

When considering team formation this season, size is important. Teams should be smaller than usual due to facility restrictions on the number of attendees and the requirement to physically distance outside of the field of play (including on the bench during a game). In addition, with ongoing registration this season, if players chose to join late, there needs to be a place for players to be placed on teams and in cohorts.

Lastly, if facilities are continuing to restrict to participant numbers it is likely that modified games should be considered an option.

Ringette BC is here to help work through the cohort model to make the most of the cohort system.

***Athlete Pathways***

Teams in BC are formed following the applicable [Divisional Guidelines](#) and the Ringette BC [Team Formation Policy](#). The [Zone Head Coach selection process](#) was released on September 11th to help clarify the process for the season ahead. Club Associations may request an extension on the

Zone process if needed, but all teams in U14, U16 and U19 in BC will be either a Zone Competitive Team or a Club Team per the Division Guidelines.

The U12 Competition Introduction program will be on hold until further notice due to restrictions under Ringette Progression 3 and Phase 3 of the viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines. Ringette BC will be releasing resources for U12 players to support them at home with their individual development skills.

In October, Ringette BC will officially be launching a 24 week U14 Development Program with at-home activities and virtual webinars. This program will be open to all U14-aged players. Registration information will be released shortly.

### ***Player Evaluations***

Ringette BC will be releasing an updated Evaluation manual shortly. This guide will provide Club Associations and evaluators support and references for completing evaluations. Club Associations will be responsible for completing ALL individual skating and skills evaluations within their Club Association (regardless of intent to evaluate for Club or Zone). This change in process will help keep players in the Club Association while leading to less confusion on COVID-19 safety requirements. If you wish to review the [current manual](#) is available on the Ringette BC website.

The [Player Evaluation Criteria](#), practice plans and related drills remain the same as the last season.

### ***Player Movement***

There is potential for a significant amount of player movement between divisions this season due to the restrictions on the number of participants permitted on the ice from the facilities. The [Player Movement Policy](#) and all related processes outlined in the policy remains in effect. Club Associations should create their Player Movement Committee to help make informed decisions to ensure consistency and help to alleviate complaints and questions from parents on decisions.

### ***Player Releases***

Under the Return to Ringette Guidelines, Player Releases are currently suspended. Players that have been permanently released under the [Player Release Policy](#) (three consecutive years) may register in the Club Association that they have been permanently released to. In addition, 18+ Players can register with the Club Association of their choice. Please note that facility restrictions may prohibit players from outside the municipality from participating. Players that have been released less than three consecutive years, must register with the Club Association in the community in which they reside.

***COVID-19 Educations and Training***

Ringette BC will provide a list at the end of September to Club Associations with the names of coaches who have completed the required COVID-19 education. For Children's Ringette coaches, there will be a Children's Ringette coach training which will cover COVID -19 information and satisfies the requirement for coaches to complete COVID-19 education.

Ringette BC is continuing to work to bring ringette back to all parts of the province. Thank you for your time and dedication.

Sincerely,

Dennis Callaghan  
Chair of the Board of Directors

Nicole Robb  
Executive Director

CC: Ringette BC Board of Directors