

September 23, 2021

Ringette BC Update – Zone and Club Team Formation

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Team formation is underway for the 2021-2022 ringette season. Ringette BC would like to provide some updates to the Coaches, Club-Associations and Leagues to assist with team formation questions that may arise from Coaches, athletes, and parents.

Underage Player Movement Requests

Ringette BC's player movement policy outlines the process for players who are seeking to advance an age division. Players are able to request to move up or down an age division based on set principles and criteria as outlined in the policy.

Associations should complete the [Player Movement Administration form](#) as part of the process which will be forwarded to Ringette BC after the local Associations Player Movement Committee makes the recommendation and the Board approves movement. The form covers both overage and underage movement requests.

It is the opinion of Ringette BC that players should not advance age divisions and that advancement to an age division above should be done only in circumstances where a player is exceptional in skill but also is mature and emotionally ready to advance to a higher age divisions above their own or there is not a team available in their age division.

As a reminder, Ringette BC's Policy does not allow players who are first year in the age division to move up an age group.

Summary of Player Movement Process for U12 to U19:

This is a brief summary of the process for Player Movement Requests. Please review the [Player Movement Policy](#) in full. The form to complete for Player Movement Requests has been updated and can be found on the Ringette BC website under [online forms](#).

1. Player or parent submits a request for movement to a different age division than their child's designated age group based on birth year.
2. Association receives and determines if the request is in alignment with policy.
3. Association then evaluates the athlete in both their designated age group and the age group they are seeking.
4. The Association will form a player movement committee who receives the request from the player along with considering the evaluation results. In addition, the player movement committee should weigh the following:
 - a. Will moving this player up a division displace a player within the age group?
 - b. Will moving this player disadvantage or negatively impact the age group they are leaving?

- c. Is this required for critical team formation purposes?
 - d. Any other factors that could be impacted by the player movement request.
- 5. The Association's Player Movement Committee will then send to the local Association Board of Directors their recommendation for consideration.
- 6. If approved by the local board, the requests are then sent to Ringette BC's Player Movement Committee who will consider each approved request and will either affirm, deny or request more information before passing their recommendations to the Ringette BC Board of Directors for final consideration.

Overage Player Movement Requests:

Ringette BC strives to provide an inclusive environment for all participants. The overage player movement request is intended to provide an avenue for participants who may be better suited to a participation experience in a different age group.

Overage player movement requests are for players who have mental or physical disabilities or who are brand new to the sport of ringette and need more experience to master fundamental skating and ringette skills in order to participate in the game with their birth year.

Overage player movement requests should be approved by the local Association Player Movement Committee and the League before they are sent to Ringette BC for final consideration and approval.

In all cases a player movement request can be altered if the athlete improves over the course of the season or it is clear that the movement was not a good fit for the athlete.

Zone Team Player Movement Requests:

Players who are seeking to move up a division for a Zone team and are also trying out within their Zone team will apply to their Local Ringette Association for the movement. Player movement for U14, U16 and U19 players should be the exception not the rule and competitive players should participate in their birth year.

Travel for 2021-2022 Zone Teams

Zone U16 and U19:

Zone teams in U16 and U19 are expected to attend an out of town tournament in every league that has a team in the age divisions. In U16, there are teams in the Northern Ringette League, Lower Mainland Ringette League and Thompson-Okanagan Ringette League. In U19, there are teams in the Lower Mainland Ringette League and Thompson-Okanagan Ringette League.

Zone teams in U16 and U19 are expected to participate in 20-30 games in a season. In order, to reach the number of games required teams will need to attend more than one tournament in a season. In addition, all Zone teams will compete at the 2022 Provincial Championships and are seeking to participate at the 2022 Western Canadian Ringette Championships in Regina.

Ringette BC will follow all directions from the Provincial Health Officer related to COVID-19. If travel restrictions within the Province of BC do not recommend travel into or out of certain regions teams will be supported in not attending a tournament in a region or province that is not recommended for travel.

Zone U14 Teams:

U14 Zone teams are expected to compete in at least one tournament within each region. The teams must attend at least one tournament within the Northern League, one tournament within the Thompson-Okanagan League, and one tournament in the Lower Mainland.

In addition, all U14 Zone teams will compete at the 2022 Provincial Championships and are seeking to participate at the 2022 Western Canadian Ringette Championships in Regina.

Tournament schedule below is current as of September 22, 2021

Sanctioned Zone Tournament Schedule 2021-2022:

- Okanagan Autumn Blast Tournament, November 5 – 7, 2021 in Vernon
 - Divisions: Zone U14, U16 and U19
 - *Limited capacity maximum 4 teams.*
- Joy Hoffman Tournament, November 12 – 14, 2021 in Prince George
 - Divisions: Zone U14, U16
- Michelle Vandale Memorial Spirit of Winter Tournament, December 3 -5, 2021 in Langley
 - Divisions: Zone U14, U16, U19 and 18+A/B
- Sweetheart Tournament, February 11 – 13, 2022, in Kelowna
 - Divisions: Zone U14, U16, U19

Sanctioned Club Tournament Schedule 2021-2022:

- Okanagan Autumn Blast Tournament, November 5 – 7, 2021 in Vernon
 - Divisions: Zone U14, U16 and U19, Club U14, and U12
- Joy Hoffman Tournament, November 12 – 14, 2021 in Prince George
 - Divisions: U10, U12, U14, U16
- Ice Breaker Tournament, November 11 – 14, 2021 in Burnaby and New Westminster
 - Divisions: U10,U12, Club U14, U16, U19, Masters
 - Lower Mainland Teams ONLY
- Michelle Vandale Memorial Spirit of Winter Tournament, December 3 -5, 2021 in Langley
 - Divisions: U10, U12, Club U14, U16, U19, and 18+A/B
- Sweetheart Tournament, February 11 – 13, 2022, in Kelowna
 - Divisions: U10, U12, Club U14, U16, U19, and 18+A/B
- POCO Jamboree, February 25 – 27, 2022, in Port Coquitlam
 - Divisions: U10, FUNdamentals 1 and 2

Confirmed Major Competitions Event Schedule 2021-2022:

- BC Winter Games 2022 in Vernon, BC
 - Division: U16
 - Dates: February 24 to 27, 2022
- Zone Provincial Championships Divisions U14, U16, U19 in Coquitlam, BC
 - Divisions U14, U16, U19
 - Dates: March 4 to 6, 2022
- U12 Year End Event 2022 in Langley, BC
 - Division: All U12 teams
 - Dates: March 18 to 20, 2022
- Western Canadian Ringette Championships 2022 in Regina Saskatchewan
 - Divisions: U14 Zone, U16 Zone, U19 Zone and 18+A
 - Dates: March 31-April 3, 2022

The Club Division Provincial Championships for U14, U16 and U19 have not been confirmed at this time and Ringette BC is still seeking a host for the 18+A and B Provincial Championships.

Ringette BC is seeking host Associations for the 2022 Club Provincial Championships and the 18+ A/B Provincial Championships. To apply please complete the [tournament application form](#).

Player Pick –Ups:

Coaches and team staff should review the Ringette BC [Player Pick Up Policy](#) for all divisions and age groups.

Club Division Teams

Club teams are eligible to pick up players from any club division team within their neighboring associations. Player pick-ups for Club are restricted to five (5) games per athlete and one tournament. Provincial championships can be in excess of the five games.

Zone Division Teams

Zone teams are able to affiliate up to four affiliates, of which one must be a goalie. Zone affiliates must come from within the age division of the team. For example, a U14 Zone team should affiliate a U14 aged player to their team from within their Zone. Affiliates are restricted to playing in no more than 10 games with the Zone team, and can be used to replace injured or absent athletes during league and tournament play.

Zone Team Affiliates are eligible to attend Provincial Championships and Western Canadian Ringette Championships. Teams are permitted to use affiliates at Provincial Championships (to replace an injury only) and Western Canadian Ringette Championships in excess of the ten (10) game limit noted above.

Player Pick Ups Western Canadian Ringette Championships:

As Team BC players will not be eligible for Western Canadian Ringette Championships the Zone teams are able to add their affiliate players to their rosters and may add additional players from other Zone teams up to a maximum roster size of 18 players.

All player pick-ups must be approved by Ringette BC for Western Canadian Ringette Championships.

Relevant links:

[Ringette BC Message Board](#)

[Ringette BC Policy](#)

[Ringette BC Guidelines and Manuals](#)

[U14 Zone Division Guidelines](#)

[U16/U19 Zone Division Guidelines](#)

[Club Division Guidelines U12 to U19](#)