

Policy Section	Change	Policy Version #	Date Approved	Effective Date
All	New Policy	0	2002	2002
All	Policy Revisions	0.1 – 0.7	2003-2011	2003-2011
All	Split Policy into sections 1.0 – 23.0, Appendix A – G	1	2012	2012
2.0 – 10.0	Wording Changes, added new sections	2	2014	2014
All	Wording changes, added new sections	3	09/07/2017	09/07/2017
All	Spelling, Punctuation	4	N/A	11/03/2017

## 8.0 TEAM ADVANCE/RETREAT POLICY

### 8.1 Purpose

To provide a process to change the level (tier) of a team partway through a season should the original registered level not be considered the correct level competitively.

### 8.2 Applicability

- 8.2.1 Any Ringette Alberta registered team participating in the leagues specified in 8.2.2 and 8.2.3
- 8.2.2 123 League or its successor
- 8.2.3 Black Gold League or its successor

### 8.3 Principles

- 8.3.1. Any team that has been seeded by the format specified in 4.4.4 of the Tiering Policy, may request to be advanced or retreated, to a higher or lower level respectively, to improve the likelihood of meaningful competition for itself and its competitors.
- 8.3.2. Any team which feels an opposing team is seeded incorrectly according to 4.4.4 of the Tiering Policy may request that an opposing team be advanced or retreated to improve the likelihood of meaningful competition for itself and / or its competitors.
- 8.3.3. This policy delegates the authority of team re-tiering (moving from one level to another) from Ringette Alberta to leagues specified in 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 when those leagues make a *Provincial Decision* on team tiering for:
  - 8.2.3.1 Ringette Alberta Playdowns;
  - 8.2.3.2 Ringette Alberta Provincials;
  - 8.2.3.3 All Ringette Alberta sanctioned tournaments that commence 14 days or more subsequent to the *Provincial Decision Date* except:
    - 8.2.3.3.1 when the subject team is participating in its home tournament and the host committee has already accepted teams

into the subject team's original tier and the host committee informs the competing teams.

- 8.3.4. Leagues are free to *re-pool* teams within a level in their respective leagues for ease of league operations or facilitating competitive equity without this re-pooling being considered applicable for 8.3.3.1, 8.3.3.2 and 8.3.3.3.

## **8.4 Requirements**

### 8.4.1 Timelines

- 8.4.1.1 Any team that has been tiered by the format specified in 4.4.4. of the Tiering Policy under a given competition level and wishes to apply to advance to a higher level of play or retreat to a lower level of play must apply to its league on or before the date specified by the league and in the manner required by the league.
- 8.4.1.2 Any team that wishes to advance an opposing team must apply to the opposing team's league on or before the date specified by the league and in the manner required by the league.
- 8.4.1.3 No less than five (5) days in advance of the *Leagues' Consideration Date*, leagues must notify teams and their association, in writing, that the teams will be considered for an advance or retreat and include reasons the team is being considered.
- 8.4.1.4 If they desire, teams which are the subject of a possible advance or retreat have until the expiration of the timeline specified in 8.4.1.3 to provide written rationale to the Leagues to remain at the level assigned the team according to 4.4.4.

### 8.4.2 Fees

- 8.4.2.1 A fee, if any, as specified by the league must accompany advance or retreat requests.

### 8.4.3 Right of Appeal

- 8.4.3.1 The leagues' Provincial Decision is not appealable.
- 8.4.3.2 The opportunity for a team to "make its case" is afforded to the team in 8.4.1.4.
- 8.4.3.3 Prior to December 14th of the current season, the leagues retain the right to revisit their Provincial Decision.

### 8.4.4 Reporting and Acceptance

- 8.4.4.1 The Provincial Decision of the leagues must be communicated to Ringette Alberta, in writing, no later than December 14th of the season in question.

- 8.4.4.2 Acceptance, by Ringette Alberta, of the leagues' Provincial Decision on each team should be assumed by the teams and leagues unless Ringette Alberta communicates objection, in writing, to the leagues within 24 hours of receiving the notice specified in 8.4.4.1.

## 8.5 Definitions

*Re-pool:* re-arrange teams into groups for competitive equity or other reasons within the same age level and tier, e.g., Red and White pools within U14B.

*Re-tiering:* Move a team from one level or tier within an age group to another level or tier within the same or other age group or for competitive equity or other reasons. eg. Move a team from U12C to U12B.

*Provincial Decision:* The decision made by the leagues specified in 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 at a common meeting involving both leagues for competition types specified in 8.3.3.

*Leagues' Consideration Date:* the date that the Black Gold League and the 123 League commence their deliberations on the tiering of teams subject to this policy.

*Provincial Decision Date:* the date that the Black Gold League and the 123 League reach their Provincial Decision on the tiering of teams subject to this policy.

## 8.6 References

4.0 Tiering Policy