

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 9.4.2, 9.4.3	Spelling, Punctuation Removed Male references	3	N/A	11/03/2017
9.4.4 9.4.5	Competitive Ringette Player Subs Provincial & Playdown Sub policy	4	06/15/2019	06/15/2019
9.4.4 9.4.5 9.5	Clarification of Substitute/Affiliate players Player eligibility for Playdowns/Provincials/Westerns Definition of Substitute/Affiliate players	5	08/26/2021	08/26/2021

9.0 OPEN RINGETTE POLICY

9.1 Purpose Provide minimum standard for the formation and operation of Open Ringette Teams in Alberta.

9.2 Applicability NRL (as defined in 9.5), Competitive (Open A, B, C), & Recreational.
All league, exhibition, tournament, play down, and Provincial Championship games unless specifically stated otherwise in this policy.
Exception: NRL, who are governed by the NRL Framework.

9.3 Principles

- 9.3.1 Open Ringette is organized to accommodate different needs and expectations of those participating, these participants are:
 - 9.3.1.1 Young adults who are highly skilled and are pursuing a high performance goal;
 - 9.3.1.2 Young adults who are highly skilled and may still be pursuing a high performance goal (i.e., still developing as athletes). These may include players who are not participating in the NRL but are likely to be able to perform at or near that level currently or in the future;
 - 9.3.1.3 Other athletes who no longer wish to or are unable to advance to a high performance team but still wish to remain in a competitive environment; and,
 - 9.3.1.4 Other athletes who participate primarily for the social and physical benefits of a recreational environment.
- 9.3.2 Open Ringette is therefore organized to clarify the distinction between NRL, competitive ringette and recreational ringette. See 9.4.1 Categorization of Teams and 9.5 Definitions.
- 9.3.3 There is a greater expectation of fairness and equity in a competitive environment than a recreational environment therefore this policy will reflect the difference.

9.4 Requirements

9.4.1 Ringette Context and Categorization of Teams

National Ringette League - Highly Competitive.

- Guided by the NRL Framework.

Open A - Highly Competitive:

- Eligible to attend Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- Eligible to attend Ringette Alberta Provincial Championships.

Open B, C - Competitive:

- Eligible to attend Ringette Alberta Provincial Championships.

Recreational:

- Do not have Provincial Championships.

9.4.2 Registration

Regardless of the number of games intended to be played, all players participating in a Ringette Alberta sanctioned event shall be registered, in advance, with Ringette Alberta.

9.4.3 Team Staff

All team staff members that will be on the player's bench must be registered on the appropriate team as team staff members. The fee to register team staff is listed in Appendix A - Rates and Fees and team staff shall be registered in accordance with the Team Staff Certification Policy (see 10.0 Team Staff Policy).

9.4.3.1 Coaches

Open Ringette Teams must comply with 10.0 Team Staff Policy.

9.4.3.2 Player Coaches

9.4.3.2.1 Open A

Players on the Team Registration Form (TRF) may also be listed on the TRF and Game Sheet as an Assistant Coach.

9.4.3.2.2 Open B, C

Players on the Team Registration Form (TRF) may also be listed on the TRF and Game Sheet as a Head or Assistant Coach.

9.4.3.2.3 Player Coaches assume the same level of responsibility for the team as non-playing coaches.

9.4.4 Team Viability

9.4.4.1 Teams may use Substitute or Affiliate players (as defined in 9.5) to make a viable team for a game. The use of Substitute or Affiliate players must comply with Table 1 below, as well as the following:

9.4.4.1.1 Competitive Ringette

- All teams must comply with 5.0 Player Affiliation Policy, as it pertains to how many Substitute/Affiliate players may be used in a game; and
- Individuals may be registered on a maximum of one (1) TRF as a full time player.
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9.4.4.1.2 Recreational Ringette

Due to the registration of recreational players, any recreational player can play on any team at any time, as long as they are registered as a Recreational Open player.

9.4.4.2 Number of Team Registration Forms (TRFs) for any Individual Player

9.4.4.2.1 Competitive Ringette

Individuals may be registered on a maximum of one (1) TRF as a full time player.

9.4.4.2.1.1 A player playing full time on one team, and as a Substitute on another, may compete on both teams at the same event.

9.4.4.2.2 Recreational Ringette

Individuals must be registered as an individual in RAB registration system and may play on any team at any time, including competitive.

Table 1

Substitution/Affiliation Permitted		TO SUBSTITUTE/AFFILIATE TEAM				
		REC	Open C	Open B	Open A	NRL
	Masters	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ²
	Open D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ²
	Open C	x	✓	✓	✓	✓ ²

Open B	x	x	✓	✓	✓ ²
Open A	x	x	x	✓	✓ ²
NRL	x	x	x	x	x
U19 AA	x	x	x	✓	✓ ²
U19 A	x	x	✓	✓	✓ ²
U19 B	x	✓	✓	✓	✓ ²
U16, U14, U12	x	✓	✓	✓	✓ ²

✓² Provided this is permitted in the NRL policy

9.4.5 Playdowns, Provincial Championships, and Western Canadian Championships Eligibility

9.4.5.1 Teams wishing to participate in Provincial Championships must participate in playdowns; as defined jointly by Ringette Alberta and the applicable Leagues.

9.4.5.1.1 Teams must submit their Commitment to Attend (Playdowns and Provincials), to Ringette Alberta, by the deadline, in order to be eligible to participate. **Late submissions will not be accepted.**

9.4.5.1.2 Teams shall compete in Playdowns and Provincial Championships at the same level of competitive play in which they participated during League play.

9.4.5.1.3 The use of Substitute/Affiliate players for League Playoffs, Playdowns and Provincial Championships will be determined as follows:

9.4.5.1.3.1 The Leagues will determine the eligibility of Substitute/Affiliate players for League Playoff and Playdowns games.

9.4.5.1.3.2 Leagues must submit the Approved Substitute/Affiliate Players list for each team to Ringette Alberta no later than 28 days prior to the start of the Provincial Competition. These players will be added to the TRF as "Affiliate Players" for the Provincial Championships, and 5.0 Player Affiliation Policy will apply for the use/eligibility of

Substitute/Affiliate players for Provincials.

- 9.4.5.1.3.3 The list of approved Substitute/Affiliate players used for the Provincial Championships must be the same as the list of players used for League Playoff and Playdowns games.
- 9.4.5.1.3.4 For the Western Canadian Championships, a team's affiliate players shall automatically become full-time players. Teams that qualify for Westerns may make changes to their roster to ensure team viability to compensate for players unable to attend Westerns. Players may be substituted on a one for one basis (for each player added to the roster, another player must be deleted). In addition, at least 50% of the playing roster that will attend Westerns must have been a fulltime roster player on the team during the season.

9.5 Definitions

Open: no age restriction;

NRL: National Ringette League: A National environment where the desire to win is the primary (although not only) source of enjoyment;

Competitive Ringette: An environment where the desire to win is the primary (although not only) source of enjoyment;

Recreational Ringette: An environment where the desire for social interaction is the primary (although not only) source of enjoyment.

Substitute: A registered player in an Open division, who participates in a game for a different team (as allowed by Table 1). A substitute player does NOT need to be registered on the TRF as an "Affiliate" when participating as a Substitute player.

Affiliate: A registered player in a U19 (or younger) division, who participates in a game for an Open team (as allowed by Table 1). An affiliate player MUST be registered on the TRF as an "Affiliate" when participating as an Affiliate player, and must follow 5.0 Player Affiliation Policy as it pertains to Minor athletes.

9.6 References

2.0 Registration Policy

4.0 Tiering Policy

5.0 Player Affiliation Policy

10.0 Team Staff Policy