

COACHING CERTIFICATION POLICY

Purpose

1. The purpose of this policy is to outline the certification requirements for coaching ringette in Canada and to describe the various ringette coaching education programs developed and/or offered by Ringette Canada.

Application of this Policy

2. This policy applies to all individuals wishing to engage in the role of a coach, instructor and on-ice assistant for the sport of ringette in Canada.

Definitions

3. Coaches-in-training (CIT) - coaches that are in training or trained and not yet certified.
Junior on-ice assistant - A coach between the ages of 14 and 17 that may be an on-ice skills role model with a lower division or age group.

Objectives

4. The objectives of Ringette Canada's coaching certification program are to:
 - a) Promote and align with the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP)
 - b) Develop and/or enhance coaching programs and resources to help coaches improve the skill level of ringette participants
 - c) Provide Canada wide training and certification minimum requirement standards for consistency, recognising that Provincial Territorial Sport Organizations may add additional training requirements.

Minimum Coaching Requirements

5. All coaches are required to adhere to the following:
 - a) Must be registered and in good standing with their local and provincial or territorial ringette associations.
 - b) Completed specific NCCP training and/or certification requirements in table below.
 - c) Must follow their provincial, territorial and/or local association(s) screening policy.
 - d) Must ensure that all "one-on-one" interactions and communications between a coach and an athlete must take place in an open, observable, justifiable and interruptible setting except for medical emergencies. Ringette teams must always have two screened and NCCP trained or certified coaches present. Be considerate of the gender of the athletes when selecting coaches for your program. One of the coaches where possible should also be of the same gender as the athlete. Should there be a circumstance where a second screened and NCCP trained or certified coach is not available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited.
 - e) Ringette Canada recommends coaches at all levels complete the Keeping Girls in Sport Module available through the Respect Group for professional development.

Provincial Coaching Requirements

6. All coaches must adhere to their Provincial/Territorial Ringette Association coaching requirements that may be more rigorous than Ringette Canada's requirements.

Ringette in Canada NCCP Coaching Requirements

7. Table of Requirements

Division	Level	Position	Make Ethical Decisions (MED)	CAC Safe Sport OR Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders Module	NCCP Making Headway in Sport	Canadian Women & Sport Keeping Girls in Sport Module	NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport	Ringette Community Coach <i>previously Ringette Community Sport Initiation (CSI)</i>	Competition Introduction (CI)		Competition Development (CD)	
			Trained (T) Certified (✓)	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Certified	In Training	Certified
Children's Ringette		Head & Assistant Coach	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
		On-ice assistant 18+	T	✓	✓		✓					
		Junior Helper 14 - 17		✓	✓		✓					
U12		All Coaches	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
U14	C, B	Head Coach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
		Assistant Coaches	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
	A	Head Coach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (if regional)			
		Assistant Coaches	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
	AA	Head Coach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
		Assistant Coaches	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			
		CIT* 14-17 years	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			
U16 and U19	C	All coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	B	Head Coach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (if regional)			
		All Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	A	All Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓ (at 18+ years)		
		CIT* 16-17 years	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			
	AA	All Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	take 1 CD multi-sport per season	
U20 Canada Games	AAA	All Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
		CWG Apprentice Coaches	✓	✓	✓						✓	
Open	Open AA Open A	Head Coach	✓	✓	✓					✓ (if regional)		
		Assistant Coach	There are no coaching requirements for Open AA or open A assistant coaches for interprovincial or regional play.									

Division	Level	Position	Make Ethical Decisions (MED)	CAC Safe Sport OR Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders Modules	NCCP Making Headway in Sport	Canadian Women & Sport - Keeping Girls in Sport Module	Coach Initiation in Sport	Ringette Community Coach <i>previously Ringette Community Sport Initiation (CSI)</i>	Competition Introduction (CI)		Competition Development (CD)	
			Certified	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Trained	Certified	In Training	Certified
Open	C, B, A	All Coaches	There are no coaching requirements for Open A B C and Masters division coaches that play in league or provincial only events. Coach requirements will be set by the Province.									
30+ (Masters)	All	All Coaches										
NRL	AAA	All Coaches	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓ must take 1 CD multi-sport per season	✓ min 1 coach on bench
U17 National Programs Coaches	AAA	Head Coach and Assistant Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓					Aspirational ✓	Aspirational ✓
U18 National Programs Coaches	AAA	Head Coach and Assistant Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
		CIT	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
Jr and Sr National Team	AAA	All Coaches	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
		CIT	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	

Note: All divisions and levels must have at least one woman coach (18 years old and older) fully qualified for the coaching position they hold on the bench. Open and Masters' Divisions are exempt from this requirement.

Note: As indicated in the CAC Locker Record, Coaches that are "Certified – Not Renewed" need to acquire the necessary PD points to be Renewed.

Note: Competition Introduction (CI) Certified Coaches at the u16AA, u19AA and NRL level, not yet Competition-Development Certified, are required to complete a minimum of one (1) Competition-Development multi-sport course per season, prior to January 31st, until they are Competition Development Certified.

Note: Assistant coaches who take Ringette Competition Introduction (CI) Clinic this season are not required to obtain their Competition Introduction (CI) Certification this season. (Does not include NRL coaches.)

Qualified Bench Staff

8. Head and Assistant Coaches do not require the same qualifications in some divisions and levels, if an Assistant Coach is required to replace a Head Coach, the replacement coach is recommended to have the Head Coach qualifications for that division and level.

Coach-in-Training (CIT*)

9. A Coach-in-Training:
- *CIT's are coaches in-training or trained in CI or CD not yet certified. This is not a junior helper.*
- a) CIT Coaches may NOT fill the qualified woman on the bench requirement.
 - b) At the U12, U14 (all levels), U16 and U19A levels, may help coach a team as part of the team's 5-person bench staff as a coach-in-training. (1 per Team)
 - c) CIT under 18 are granted a one season exemption for certification. The CITs MUST be certified for the coaching division and level in the year of their 18th birthday.
 - d) CIT at the SNT & JNT National Team level must be Competition-Development trained and must achieve certification prior to the World Championship.

Junior On-Ice Assistant

10. Junior On-Ice Assistant - A skills role model between the ages of 14 and 17 that may be an on-ice helper with a lower age group.
- a) a coach may join a team mid-season as a Junior Helper once they turn 14.
 - b) Junior helpers are required to complete their requirements by November 30th of the current playing season.

First Aid

11. A minimum of one member of each team's bench staff must have current, valid minimum standard certification from a recognized First Aid program or active employment in a recognized health care profession in which first aid techniques are commonly applied.

Helmets

12. All coaches, instructors and all on-ice helpers must wear helmets while on the ice.

Equivalencies

13. Equivalencies were offered to fully certified coaches from the "Levels" NCCP. Those that had not achieved full certification are required to complete the requirements for the new NCCP contexts. There are no transfers or equivalencies offered for coaches for sport-specific training with NCCP training in other sports who wish to coach ringette. Coaches can receive equivalencies for training offered in the multi-sport environment.

Maintenance of Certification

14. All coaches, Coach Developers and Master Coach Developers are required to continue their life-long professional development in their roles. Ringette Canada follows a 5-year cycle as set out by the CAC. The five-year cycle begins on January 1st following the year of the coach's achievement of certification.

Coaches and Coach Developers are required to accumulate the following points:

Coaches:	Community Coach (Community Sport - Initiation): 10 points
	Competition - Introduction: 20 points
	Competition -Development: 30 points
Coach Developers:	(LFs, CEs, MCDs): 20 points
<i>Maintenance of Certification points completed are eligible for all roles that an individual may hold.</i>	

This Policy is subject to review at least once every 3 years

Date of last review: June 2025

The publication of Ringette Canada policies will be in the English and French languages. In the case of conflicting interpretations, the English version will prevail.