

# **ATHLETE REGISTRATION, ELIGIBILITY & TRANSFER POLICY**

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## **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this Policy is to govern the registration of athletes within Ringette Canada.

## **Application of this Policy**

2. This Policy applies to all Ringette Canada's Members, registered athletes and potential athletes.

## **Definitions**

3. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

“Female teams” – Teams that are comprised exclusively of female athletes;

“Male teams” – Teams that are comprised exclusively of male athletes; and

“Co-Ed teams” – Teams that are comprised of a combination of male and female athletes, with a minimum of one (1) athlete of each gender.

## **Registration**

4. Members will register all athletes registered within the provincial/territorial association with Ringette Canada and pay the associated fee by February 15<sup>th</sup> of the applicable playing season. Payments may be made in two installments with 50% by December 31 and the remaining by February 15<sup>th</sup> for the September to April playing year.
5. Athletes will only register with one Member and will only play within their provincial/territory association of permanent residence unless granted a release or transfer.
6. Registration will follow the process outlined in the Ringette Canada Procedures Manual.

## **Registration Fee**

7. Athlete registration fees will be determined by the Board.

## **Age Groups and Teams**

8. Registered athletes on female teams will be categorized as follows:
  - 8.1 Seniors – 50 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.2 Masters – 30 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.3 Open – 18 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.4 U19 – Under 19 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.5 U16 - Under 16 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.6 U14 - Under 14 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.7 U12 - Under 12 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 8.8 U10 - Under 10 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season; and
  - 8.9 U9 - Under 9 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season.

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9. Registered athletes on male teams will be categorized as follows:
  - 9.1 Seniors – 50 years of age and over as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.2 Masters – 30 years of age and over as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.3 Open – 19 years of age and over as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.4 U20 - Under 20 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.5 U17 - Under 17 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.6 U15 - Under 15 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.7 U13 - Under 13 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season;
  - 9.8 U11 - Under 11 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season; and
  - 9.9 U9 - Under 9 years of age as of December 31st of the playing season.
  
10. Registered athletes on Co-Ed teams will be categorized as follows, in keeping with the physiological gender differences:
  - 10.1 Seniors – 50 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.2 Masters – 30 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.3 Open – 18 years of age and over as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.4 U19 – Under 19 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.5 U16 – Under 16 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.6 U14 – Under 14 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.7 U12 – Under 12 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season;
  - 10.8 U10 – Under 10 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season; and
  - 10.9 U9 – Under 9 years of age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the playing season.
  
11. Teams will be categorized as follows:
  - 11.1 AAA – Teams participating in international play;
  - 11.2 AA – Teams participating in national, interprovincial/interritorial, provincial or territorial play and provincial or territorial all-star teams;
  - 11.3 A – Teams participating in regional, district or county level play;
  - 11.4 B – Teams participating in recreation, house league or school play; and
  - 11.5 C – Teams participating in recreation, house league or school play.
  
12. Additional categories may be designated upon the sole discretion of the Board.
  
13. The classification of teams will be as follows:
  - 13.1 AAA as determined by the Board;
  - 13.2 AA as determined by the associated local, provincial/territorial association;
  - 13.3 A as determined by the local regional, district or county association; and
  - 13.4 B and C as determined by the recreational, house league or school association.
  
14. Exceptions to the categorization of athletes defined in Section 7 and 8 may be permitted by the Board upon their sole discretion upon receipt of a written request.

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### **Athlete Registration Deadlines**

15. Athletes wishing to participate in international, national and interprovincial/interterritorial play, including Master Athlete Games, must register with Ringette Canada on or before February 15th of the current playing year and must be registered with a team on or before February 28th of the current playing year.
16. The date of registration will be defined as the date in which both the Athlete Registration Form and payment and the Team Registration Form and payment have been received by Ringette Canada.
17. Athletes not complying with Sections 13 and 14 will not be eligible for international, national and interprovincial/interterritorial play.

### **Canadian Ringette Championships (CRC)**

18. Athletes who are Canadian citizens and permanent residents are eligible for the CRC.
19. An athlete's permanent residence must be within the province or territory they are representing, expect upon transfer or release, prior to January 1st of the year of the CRC.
20. Athletes who are permanent residents must be a permanent resident within the province or territory they are representing at least six (6) months prior to the CRC in order to be eligible.
21. Students attending school on a full-time basis outside of their province/territory of permanent residence during the year of the CRC will be deemed eligible to compete for either their province of permanent residency or the province in which the athlete attends school full-time if the athlete is enrolled as a full-time student during the applicable academic year and the athlete provides proof of full-time student status upon submission of the team roster.
22. Fees payable to Ringette Canada for the CRC will be determined by Ringette Canada at their sole discretion.

### **Transfers and Releases**

23. Athletes wishing to transfer after February 15th of each year must submit a form, approved by Ringette Canada, to the head office of Ringette Canada with all supporting evidence and documentation.
24. Athletes will only be granted a transfer if the athlete has moved their permanent residence from one province/territory to another province/territory.
25. The decision to approve or deny a transfer will be determined by the Board.
26. Athletes wishing to be released will follow the process outlined in the Ringette Canada Procedures Manual.

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### **Sanctions**

27. Violations of this Policy will result in discipline to the athlete and/or Member in accordance with Ringette Canada's Discipline and Complaints Policy.

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

**Date of last review: November 2013**

*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.*