

## 1. Provincials

### 1.1 General

- a) All divisions may begin competition as early as Monday of the Provincial week. Every effort will be made not to schedule games prior to 6:00pm on weekdays, with the exception of Fridays where competition may begin as early as noon.
- b) Based on annual registrations Provincial divisions will be U12 A, U14 A, U14 B, U14 C, U16 AA, U16 A, U16 B, U19 AA, U19 A, U19 B.
- c) An Open Provincial/Playoff may be held to determine a representative for the Western Canadian Ringette Championship.
- d) Every effort will be made to avoid scheduling a team for more than 2 games a day.
- e) Ringette Manitoba is responsible for all Provincials with assistance from the Local Associations.
- f) The Provincial format for AA will be determined by Ringette Manitoba annually.
- g) U16 A, U19 A Provincials will be run in a round robin format with one game for bronze and one game for gold.
- h) For U16 and U19 A Provincials, league winners will be given 1 point going into Provincials when it is in a round robin format.
- i) Consolation rounds will be held in a 6 team round robin and double knockout formats, for U12 and U14 only. If a division includes team(s) that did not participate in WRL Playoffs and must travel more than 200kms to attend, a consolation game will be included.
- j) Games will be played until a winner is declared with the exception of games in a round robin format.
- k) Coaches as leaders of the teams shall make every effort to ensure there is not more than a 7-goal spread during Provincial games. Ringette Manitoba will not tolerate goal spreads of 7 or more. Should a team exceed 7 goals a letter may be sent to the coach notifying them this game result is unacceptable.
- l) Provincials will be played according to the current Ringette Canada rulebook, with the exception of the Tie Breaking Procedure.
- m) Period length for Provincials will follow the period length in regular league play for each division.
- n) Provincial Championship fees will be reviewed by Ringette Manitoba annually.
- o) Every team must complete a Provincial Championship registration to be considered for Provincial play. Fees are due December 15<sup>th</sup> annually. If fees are not received by the due date, team(s) will not be allowed to compete in Provincials – no exception. Once a team has registered for Provincials there will be no refunds. Should a team withdraw after they have entered their registration the team will be charged a \$200 withdrawal fee in addition to losing their registration fee.
- p) No males will be allowed to play on a female only team at the U16 and U19 divisions. However, a team can apply to use a male goaltender only if the goaltender(s) were registered with a Ringette team prior to May 7, 2005. If a team requests that their male goaltender be used in place of their female goaltender, they must submit proof to Ringette Manitoba that the goaltender has met eligibility requirements. Male goaltenders will not be allowed at AA.

- q) Should a team knowingly play an ineligible player, all points will be removed from that team, and any medals will be stripped.
- r) No official should knowingly be assigned to officiate a Provincial Championship game in a division in which they or an immediate family member participates as a player or team staff, should their team be entered in the Provincial.
- s) Games within a provincial tournament can be moved if required (giving 90 minutes for team recovery).
- t) Any person, who engages in unsportsmanlike or abusive behaviour in any form, including online, could be required to appear in front of a disciplinary panel, and fulfill any sanctions that may be assigned. Plus a person, may be ineligible to represent Manitoba at WCRC or CRC.
- u) Shot clock operators will be assigned and shot clocks will be provided at all levels of Provincials. If shot clocks are not available for any reason, games will proceed as scheduled.
- v) For Provincial play, no player regardless of age, shall be allowed in a lower level age division than that which he/she is registered (ie. A U14 player moved up to a U16 team cannot go back and play on the U14 team until the following season).
- w) For Provincial play, no team shall be allowed in a lower level age division than that which they play in their regular league play after re-alignment.
- x) Provincial divisions will be determined by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> annually.

## 1.2 Seeding for Provincials and Wildcards

- a) The U16 and U19 A divisions will be all inclusive. Seeding will be done by alphabetical order when in a round robin format.
- b) Seeding for AA will be determined by Ringette Manitoba.
- c) The U12 A, U14 A, U14 B, U14 C, U16 B and U19 B provincials will consist of the top four teams from city playoffs. If a team not a part of WRL playoffs enter the Provincial, it will become a six team loop. If only one team not a part of WRL enters the Provincial, a wildcard will be added to include the 5<sup>th</sup> place team from city playoffs. When two teams not a part of WRL enter the Provincial they will be separated, one in each pool. The remainder of seeding will be based on WRL Playoffs. Where a division is a round robin format or all teams in the division qualify based on numbers they will be placed by alphabetical order on the schedule. Where a division is a double knockout format the seeding will be based on final standings in WRL Playoffs.
- d) When two (2) or more teams are eliminated from the WRL Championships in the same position, their final standing in the completion of WRL league play will determine their placement on the Provincial tree.
- e) No team from a higher skill level may participate in a lower skill level. (ie. A team realigned to U14 A, cannot drop back down to U14 B).

## 1.3 Temporary Promotion

- a) For Provincial Championships, no players may be deleted by coaches, however teams may be allowed to add a maximum of three (3) players to bring their roster up to ten (1) skaters in case of illness, injury, school/work commitments or players away on holidays. A letter from a parent/guardian, doctor or Local Association must accompany this request. Temporary players must come from one age division or skill level lower. Temporary players must come from their own community center/town, however if no player is available, they must then contact another community center/town in their local association. If a player is still not available, they may then go to the next nearest local association. Players must be a currently registered Ringette Manitoba player. No AA player registered on a Ringette Manitoba sanctioned roster may be used as a temporary player for Provincial competitions at the A, B or C divisions. No player will be permitted to participate in two provincial championships on the same weekend. Team Staff must provide a written request outlining the reason for request to Ringette Manitoba, 24 hours prior to the commencement of the first Provincial game in that age division. If less than 24 hours, requests will only be accepted in extreme circumstances and must be submitted to a Ringette Manitoba board member for approval.
- b) For Provincial Championships, no players may be deleted by coaches, however a goaltender may be replaced in case of illness, injury, school/work commitments or players away on holidays. A letter from a parent/guardian, player, doctor or local associations must accompany this request.

## 1.4 Protest/Appeals Committee for Provincial Championships

- a) The protest committee shall consist of the Chair of the Officiating Committee (or designate) and two Ringette Manitoba board members.
- b) The appeals committee shall consist of three board members not involved in the original protest.
- c) In the event of a protest/appeal a \$200 fee must accompany the protest/appeal within one half-hour (30 minutes) after completion of the game or protest decision.
- d) No protest will be considered over the officials decision such as scoring of goals or blue line infractions, or judgement of officials.
- e) No protest will be allowed over a timekeeping error if the result gives an equal opportunity to both teams.
- f) The protest committee shall decide whether the person initiating the protest has legitimate grounds for a protest.
- g) Protest committee members shall not be directly involved with any of the teams or officials involved in a protest.
- h) The protest committee shall decide whether a game shall be replayed at all, replayed in its entirety, or replayed from the point of dispute should a protest be upheld.
- i) An appeal may be submitted on a decision of the protest committee. The decision of the appeal committee shall be final and binding.

## 1.5 Game forfeiture

- a) Any team not showing for a game during the Provincials will receive an automatic suspension from further play to start immediately. This suspension will be in effect until the team staff appears before the Ringette Manitoba disciplinary committee.
- b) The only situations that would nullify an automatic suspension would be in the case of weather, (ie heavy storms, where police warn it is too dangerous for highway driving) or an act of god (hotel fire, car accident or drastic occurrences). Coach to supply adequate proof before suspension is lifted.
- c) Further penalties will be issued to a team which defaults:
  - i. A fine will be levied to the Local Association, Community Center or Town.

## 1.6 Funding

- a) Ringette Manitoba will levy a \$5.00 per player fundraising fee on all age divisions eligible for Provincials. The levy will go into a grant for each division based on the number of players.
- b) Only teams travelling to Provincials/Westerns/CRC over 200 km (one way) will receive funding.

## 2. Western Canadian Ringette Championships

### 2.1 General

- a) U16 A, U19 A Provincial Champions will represent Manitoba at the Western Canadian Ringette Championships. Any second place or wildcard team will attend as a club team but will also be representing Ringette Manitoba.
- b) Ringette Manitoba will determine annually how the Open representatives to Western Canadian Ringette Championships will be determined.
- c) U14 teams will be selected through the U14 development program. Two teams will have a best of three playoff to determine who will become Team Manitoba and who will attend as the second team.
- d) The participating teams once qualified will become Team Manitoba and therefore must follow policies/procedures as set out in the Ringette Manitoba policies. This will also apply to any team attending as a host, wildcard or second place team.
- e) Each representative must submit to Ringette Manitoba a team contact that will liaise with Ringette Manitoba exclusively.
- f) Teams will be required to submit an application and \$1000.00 cheque with their commitment to attend by December 15<sup>th</sup> annually.
- g) Teams who withdraw their commitment to attend after the deadline will lose their deposit of \$1000 and will be fined \$5000 by the WCRC host.

### 2.2 Travel

- a) Ringette Manitoba Program Coordinator shall:
  - i. Provide hotel information to all teams representing Manitoba at WCRC. Teams are responsible for booking their own accommodations; they are required to stay at one of the host hotels.
  - ii. Order playing uniforms.
- b) Individual teams shall:
  - i. Be responsible for booking their own transportation to and from the event.

- ii. Be responsible for booking ground transportation during the event.
- iii. Book practice ice if available.
- iv. Be responsible for payment of all banquet tickets, team photos, merchandise, etc. as outlined in the event information package.
- v. Any damages to hotel rooms or vehicles are the responsibility of the team.

## 2.3 Funding

- a) Ringette Manitoba will pay for each team's registration fee in advance. Teams will pay the full amount back once they have qualified.
- b) Ringette Manitoba will provide each team representing as Team Manitoba an event grant, determined by multiplying the number of registered athletes in the team's division by the travel fee.
- c) Funding shall be given to a maximum of three coaching staff per team.
- d) Teams not following Westerns policies as outlined will not receive any Ringette Manitoba funding.
- e) All expenses for travel and participation are the responsibility of the team travelling.

## 2.4 Registration

- a) At U14 AA teams will be selected based on the high performance development program. Should there be an insufficient number of goalies participating in the program, Ringette Manitoba may recruit a goalie from outside the program to complete the team.
- b) U16 A U19 A and Open teams participating in the Western Canadian Ringette Championship are allowed to bring their roster to a maximum of eighteen (18) players. They cannot, however, delete any players that were on their roster as of January 15<sup>th</sup>, of the current playing season. Teams can request to replace players that were on their roster as of January 15<sup>th</sup>, in the case of injury, school/work commitments, or players away on holidays. A letter from the player's parent/guardian must be submitted with the request. Players who were ineligible for Provincials are not eligible as pickups for Westerns nor are they eligible to be replaced.
- c) For the Western Canadian Ringette Championships, Provincial teams may only choose additional players from their own division and skill level not currently registered as a player for a host team. In extenuating circumstances, they may apply to the Ringette Manitoba board to use a player from a skill or age group lower. Open teams will not be permitted to pick up players from a lower age division.
- d) Teams participating in the Western Canadian Ringette Championships must submit a roster to Ringette Manitoba within two (2) days following the Provincials.
- e) All team staff must be fully certified as specified annually by Ringette Manitoba.
- f) There shall be no more than 5 team staff listed on the Official Western Canadian Ringette Championship roster. Team staff positions shall include and be limited to those of coach, assistant coach, manager and trainer. There will be a maximum of one (1) manager and one (1) trainer.

## 2.5 Conduct

- a) All players, coaches and team staff must sign a behaviour and conduct declaration form prior to leaving for the tournament.
- b) All players must wear the required playing uniform.

## 2.6 Equipment

- a) Teams are required to meet equipment guidelines set in the Ringette Canada rules.
- b) Playing jerseys – team jerseys must be purchased by every player. Should a player already have a jersey from previous seasons that is the same as the current style, that jersey can be used depending on team jersey numbering. Each team is responsible for any number changes to existing jerseys. Jerseys will be selected by Ringette Manitoba.
- c) In the case where a host team is required, they will not be required to purchase jerseys, they will wear club jerseys.
- d) Only those individuals listed on the official WCRC team roster will be permitted to order team merchandise offered by Ringette Manitoba.
- e) Additional clothing purchased by teams for WCRC will need to meet a standard requirement set by Ringette Manitoba.

## 3. Canadian Ringette Championships

### 3.1 General

- a) U16 and U19 AA Provincial Champions will represent Manitoba at the Canadian Ringette Championships.
- b) The participating teams once victorious at the Provincial Championships, will become team Manitoba and therefore must follow policies and procedures as set out in the Ringette Manitoba policies.
- c) U16 and U19 AA second place teams attend CRC as their club team to represent Manitoba and must follow all Ringette Manitoba policies and procedures.
- d) Each representative must submit to Ringette Manitoba a team contact that will liaise with Ringette Manitoba exclusively.

### 3.2 Travel

- a) Ringette Manitoba shall:
  - i. Provide hotel information to all teams that are representing Manitoba at CRC's. Teams are responsible for booking their own accommodations but are required to stay at one of the host hotels.
  - ii. Order playing uniforms
- b) Individual teams shall:
  - i. Be responsible for booking their own transportation to and from the event.
  - ii. Be responsible for booking ground transportation during the event.
  - iii. Book practice ice if available.
  - iv. Be responsible for payment of all banquet tickets, team photos, merchandise, etc. as outlined in the event information package.
  - v. Any damages to hotel rooms or vehicles are the responsibility of the team.

## 3.3 Funding

- a) Teams will be required to submit the full registration fee to Ringette Manitoba by the deadline set annually. Teams who do not qualify and attend the event will receive a full refund.
- b) Ringette Manitoba will provide Team Manitoba U16 and U19 AA an event grant, determined by multiplying the number of registered athletes in the teams division by the travel fee.
- c) Funding shall be given to a maximum of three coaching staff per team.
- d) Teams not following Nationals policies as outlined will not receive any Ringette Manitoba funding.
- e) All expenses for travel and participation are the responsibility of the team travelling.

## 3.4 Registration

- a) Team rosters may not be changed after the registration deadline in each teams province, or after January 21<sup>st</sup> of the competition year, whichever is earlier.
- b) Alterations to the team roster after the roster deadline shall be made only in the case of injury (with medical documentation indicating the athlete is not medically fit to participate) and players may only be added to the roster if another has been removed due to medical reasons.
  - i. Players added to the rosters after the deadline may not have appeared on the roster of another team as of January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- c) All team staff must be fully certified as specific annually by Ringette Manitoba.

## 3.5 Conduct

- a) All players, coaches and team staff must sign a behaviour and conduct declaration form prior to leaving for the tournament.
- b) All players must wear the required playing uniform.

## 3.6 Equipment

- a) Teams are required to meet equipment guidelines set in the Ringette Canada rules.
- b) Playing jerseys – team jerseys must be purchased by every player. Should a player already have a jersey from previous seasons that is the same as the current style, that jersey can be used depending on team jersey numbering. Each team is responsible for any number changes to existing jerseys. Jerseys will be selected by Ringette Manitoba.
- c) Only those individuals listed on the official CRC team roster will be permitted to order team merchandise offered by Ringette Manitoba.
- d) Additional clothing purchased by teams for CRC will need to meet a standard requirement set by Ringette Manitoba.

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*Date of Last Review: August 16, 2022*

*RMB Board is responsible for review of this policy at least once every three years.*

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