



## **REP TEAM POLICY**

### **Rep Team Director:**

1. It shall be the duty of the Rep Team Director to co-ordinate the operation of the Rep Teams with coaching staff, within the rules and regulations governing Ringette competition as established by ORA and the Association.

### **Coaches:**

2. Coaches for Rep Teams at both Provincial and Regional levels are selected in accordance with the Coaching and Selection Process Policy.
3. Coaches are expected to coach at the level of play in accordance with the position to which they have been appointed by the Executive. Any change from that requires the approval of the WFRA Executive at a regularly scheduled meeting and could include a re-opening of the coaching selection process depending on the request or the reason for the request.
4. It is the responsibility of coaches to ensure observance of and familiarize players with the by-laws, policies and the Code of Conduct of Ringette Canada, ORA and the Association.
5. It is also the responsibility of coaches to assist and support fundraising activities as requested by the Association.
6. Each Coach shall be allowed not more than five registered bench staff (including the coach)
7. Each Rep Team must have a female, eighteen (18) years of age or over, available at each team function.

8. All bench staff (including the head coach) for Rep Teams must have police records checks completed. If any charges are discovered that impact the bench staff member's ability to work with young people, then the application to volunteer as a staff member will be denied. If there is some question as to what is acceptable, then advice will be sought from the local police force. The Technical director will track completion of record checks. The record checks must be repeated every three years, and completed by November 1st of each season.
9. All bench staff (including the head coach) must complete the Speak Out program at the earliest convenience.
10. It is the head coach's responsibility to ensure that bench staff and managers have their appropriate training and qualifications.
11. All bench staff under the age of eighteen must wear an ORA approved helmet while on the bench and the ice.
12. All bench staff must wear an ORA approved helmet while on the ice. The helmet must be worn correctly and properly fastened.
13. Coaches and bench staff will be subject to evaluations at season end in accordance with the Coaching Selection and Appointment Policy.

**Team Selection:**

14. Each Rep Team coach shall:
  - a. Offer each eligible player the same opportunity to try out for the team; and
  - b. Offer each player an equal opportunity to be assessed at each tryout.
15. It shall be the responsibility of the Rep Team Director to clearly advertise the date, time and location for every team tryout. Provincial level team tryouts shall be held in the spring (prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>) and regional level team tryouts shall be held in September.
16. All players who attend team tryouts must be registered with the Association.
17. Only the first tryout for a team shall be funded by the Association, subsequent tryouts shall be funded as determined by the Coach.
18. All players registered with the Association will be eligible for Provincial or Regional level teams regardless of size, ability or home address. Any player can attend the tryout for their age level. Major players may attend the tryout for the rep team at the age level above. But those major players must also attend the tryouts for their own age level in order to be properly evaluated.

19. If a player is cut from their age level, they will be considered equally when trying out for the higher age group without needing to be in the top ¼ of the players trying out.
20. Players wishing to play at the Provincial or Regional level must attend and participate in at least one tryout. Exceptions may be made for situations such as temporary medical conditions or personal conflicts and must be approved by the coach and the Executive. Where unable to attend and participate in at least one tryout, notification must be given to the Rep Director and the Coach.
21. All players will be evaluated using a pre-determined marking system by a group of independent evaluations. This evaluation will be uniform at all levels of tryouts. See Schedule "A" attached.
22. Independent evaluators must be qualified to coach and have experience coaching the calibre being evaluated, if possible, and may not have a child playing at that age group (including the age group of underage players). Evaluator candidates are not restricted to executive members or current WFRA members. Five evaluators are required, including two executive members not in conflict.
23. Coaches select their own teams taking into consideration the independent evaluations but it is not a requirement to base team selection solely on those independent evaluations. However, coaches must be prepared to substantiate team selection in case of complaints of inappropriate or unfair processes.
24. A limit of two underage players can be taken on a Rep Team if they are in the top ¼ skill level of the Rep Team for which they are trying out as approved by a meeting of the Executive. That decision will be based on factors such as number and skill level of age group players trying out, number of players in that division, impact on the team in the age group and lower age group, maturity and skill of the underage player, potential for future realignment for both age groups, impact on the Association, any other factors the Executive determines relevant.
25. Out-of-association players may not displace any Association player who is of the correct age and within the calibre expected of the specific Provincial Team they wish to try out for. This calibre must be determined by the independent evaluators attending the tryouts in conjunction with the coach. Acceptance of an out of town player requires approval of the executive and will be based on factors such as number and skill level of Association players trying out, number of players in that division, impact on the team, impact on player(s) not selected to take the out of association players, potential for future realignment for the team, whether the out of association player can play at the same level in the home association or in other associations.

26. The Association recognizes that occasionally players living within its boundaries may wish to play with other regional associations. The Association is obligated to issue try-out releases to any player requesting them. However, the guidelines to be followed pertaining to full player releases include the Home Association not offering the level of play or the player did not make a Home Association team but has made a team of the same skill level with another association. For any other releases, Executive approval must be obtained. Executive approval should be based on the followed factors: likelihood of player returning to the Association in future years, best interests of the player and family, impact on players in a similar situation, reason for the request and likelihood of it reoccurring, impact on Association teams at that level.
27. It is the coach's responsibly to ensure that all paperwork is obtained and properly completed with respect to out-of-association players.
28. No player may be released from any team until two tryouts are completed.
29. Coaches shall notify players who have not made the team in writing and in a face to face meeting or phone calls or through the parent at U12, bearing in mind the age of the child and level of play. Coaches should be prepared to provide feedback to the player. Schedule "B" contains a suggested letter for use by Coaches.
30. Full team selection must be made by May 30<sup>th</sup> for Provincial Level Teams and September 30<sup>th</sup> for Regional Level Teams. The number of players selected for any team will vary and will be determined based upon registration numbers at each age level and the intention of the coach. The Executive recognizes additions may be made to the roster at a later date.
31. Once a coach receives their TRF for the season, they must obtain initials on the form itself from a parent of each player to indicate their acceptance of the offer to play.
32. All Rep Teams once formed belong to the Association.

**Rep Teams:**

33. The colours of the Association will be White and Royal Blue and these colours shall be worn by all Rep teams competing against outside Association teams.
34. All teams who choose to wear off-ice team uniforms will be required to wear the same attire (which has been selected by a committee and approved by the Executive).
35. The arrangement of Rep Team sponsorship shall be the responsibility of the individual teams.

36. Any equipment issued to the Rep Team is the responsibility of the coach and shall be returned to the Equipment Director and the end of the team's playing season.
37. Coaches are expected to meet with players and parents or guardians to explain their coaching philosophy, organization of the team, proposed team budget, fundraising activities and team fees, tournaments, team rules, responsibilities of coaches, players and parents/guardians.
38. Each Rep Team Coach as appointed by the Executive shall:
  - a. Be responsible for keeping records of all income and expenditures and paying all debts incurred by the Team; and
  - b. Present a year-end accounting to the Treasurer no later than two (2) weeks after the team's season has ended.
39. Each Rep Team shall provide volunteer(s) for bingos during the calendar year. The number of bingos each team is required to provide volunteer(s) for shall be determined by the Executive.
40. Any fundraising activities must be approved by the Executive at a meeting upon written submissions by the team.

**Rep Players:**

41. It is the responsibility of players to comply with the by-laws, policies and the Code of Conduct of Ringette Canada, ORA and the Association.
42. Each Rep Team player shall be expected to play regularly within the House League as directed by the House League Director. Notwithstanding this rule, Rep players may choose to pay the Association fee, plus applicable Rep fees, and play Rep only. The Association fee shall be as set by the Executive from time to time and is meant to be applicable to players who, through their individual circumstances, are unable to play house league, including time conflicts due to school or work commitments.
43. Non-registered players are not permitted on the ice during Association scheduled times, including such Rep Team events.
44. Players must wear the equipment deemed mandatory in the Ringette Canada Rule Book and a mouth-guard.

# SCHEDULE “A”

## Tryouts and Assessment of Players

The goal is to assess all players on individual skills and game skills by the end of tryout two. Every effort will be made to assess all players against all criteria.

The breakdown of the two tryouts is suggested to be:

### Individual Skills – Tryout 1

- Individual Skills should be the focus of Tryout one except at U19 where a transition to Game Skills may occur during Tryout one.
- For initial tryouts, assessors will split up the criteria and will work together to make every effort to assess each player against each criteria.
- Under individual skills there are two categories: skating skills (with four criteria) and ring skills (with five criteria).
- Each player will be assigned a score in each category which will be the numeric average of the criteria in that category.
- Assessors will use a paper sheet to record the scores.

### Game Skills – Tryout 2

- Game Skills should be the focus of Tryout two except at U10 and possibly U12 where there may be a need to return to a focus on individual skills at some point during Tryout two.
- The assessment team will place as much emphasis as possible on game situations such as scrimmage drills involving 1-on-1, 2-on-1, 3-on-2, etc.
- For initial tryouts, assessors will split up the criteria and will work together to make every effort to assess each player against each criteria.
- Under Game Skills there are three categories: skating skills (with one criterion), ring skills (with five criteria) and game skills (with five criteria).
- Each player will be assigned a score in each category which is the numeric average of the criteria in that category.
- Assessors will use a paper sheet to record the scores.

The skills that are assessed during the tryouts are listed below. The Rep Team Director will work with the coach, the assessors and on ice helpers to assemble a tryout plan consisting of drills and exercises that will allow for these criteria to be assessed.

### Individual Skills – Skating Criteria

- Forward
- Backward
- Crossovers
- Speed

**Individual Skills – Ring Criteria**

- Stabbing
- Shooting
- Passing
- Checking
- Protecting

**Game Skills – Skating Criteria**

- Overall skating

**Game Skills – Ring Criteria**

- Stabbing
- Shooting
- Passing
- Checking
- Protecting

**Game Skills – Game Criteria**

- Checking
- Playmaking
- Intensity
- Aggressive
- Effort



# SCHEDULE “B”

# SAMPLE LETTER