



Newmarket Ringette Association

1111 Davis Drive, Suite #1-125, Newmarket, Ontario. L3Y 9E5

Team Structure Policy

It is the intent of this policy to ensure that the Newmarket Ringette Association (herein referred to as NRA) continues to provide a “Fun and Enjoyable” experience for all players, and uphold the constitution of equal play, when the number of registered players warrants the forming of more than one team in any age division.

The goal is to be able to, as fairly as possible, provide all players the opportunity to play at a caliber level conducive to their needs, wishes and abilities, while taking into consideration the specific constraints of Ringette rules and regulations, and the availability of other teams of the same caliber in the NRA region of play.

Team Structure Process

When there are enough players registered in any age division to facilitate the forming of more than one team in that age division the following criteria will be taken into consideration to determine the caliber of teams being created.

1. The NRA will adhere to, and follow any rules, regulations or guidelines regarding team division requirements established by the ORA or other higher governing body (i.e. SRRA) specific to the age division affected by this policy.
 - a. If there is a higher governing body that stipulates one team must be of higher caliber than the second or third team within the same age division then the NRA will adhere to these regulations by:
 - i. Evaluating players per the Player Evaluation Process Policy
 - ii. Utilize the evaluation process as noted in the Player Evaluation Process Policy to first form one strong “competitive” team by offering those players with the highest average score a position on the team. If a player declines then the next highest rated player will be offered a position until the team roster is complete.
 - iii. The remaining players will form the other team or
 - iv. If there are enough remaining players for 2 teams, then the remaining players will be evenly distributed to create teams of the same or equal caliber.
 - v. Although efforts will be made to accommodate team placement requests for car pooling purposes and/or friend/family relationships (for divisions up to and including U10), in order to maintain the skills level equality of all teams involved, no specific placements can be guaranteed.
 - b. If there are no rules or regulations as stipulated by a higher governing body then the NRA Board of Directors Committee will structure the caliber of teams taking into consideration the following:
 - i. The caliber of the teams available to play against within our Region for the age division affected by this policy. If the region only has one caliber level of teams in the area to play against then teams of equal caliber will

- be formed rather than one strong “competitive” team and one weaker team.
- ii. The philosophy of “Fun For Everyone” and uphold the constitution of equal play for every player regardless of skill level by promoting equal caliber teams before initiating segregation with different caliber level teams.
 - c. If it is decided by the NRA Board of Directors Committee to offer different caliber levels of teams then the same steps as (1.a.i) will be utilized to form the teams.

Overage Players:

All players who have played Ringette for at least one year will play in their appropriate age division the following year. Any player who has played more than one year who requests to play as an overage player must submit a written request to the NRA Board of Directors Committee and detail reasons why they feel they should be able to play in the lower age division. The NRA Board of Directors Committee members will entertain "true hardship" submissions and either approve or deny the request. There will be no more than two (2) overage players on any given NRA team.

This policy may be revised at any time by the elected Board of Directors Committee and it is the member's responsibility to ensure that they have the read the most recent version.