



Ringette Association of Saskatchewan (RAS) Provincial Championships Policy

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PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Individuals and participants are expected to fulfill certain responsibilities and obligations including, but not limited to, complying with RAS policies, bylaws, rules and regulations, and Code of Conduct and Ethics. Irresponsible behaviour by Individuals can result in severe damage to the integrity of the RAS. Conduct that violates these values may be subject to sanctions pursuant to the RAS Discipline and Complaints Policy.

“Individuals” – All categories of membership defined in the RAS Bylaws, as well as all individuals employed by, or engaged in activities with, the RAS including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches, convenors, referees, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, directors, and officers of the RAS

I. DEFINITIONS

- The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - Affiliated Athlete – means an athlete may be called up from their regular team in an association to play on a higher-level or higher age division team in the same association on a needed basis. This is conditional on the athlete, parents, coaches, and local association agreeing to the affiliation.
 - Pick-up Player – means an athlete must be a registered member of the RAS by December 31, must be of eligible age, of the same or lower tier and must reside within the boundaries of the same sport association.
 - Registered Team – is a team with a minimum of seven (7) registered players and one (1) registered female coach. Players and coaches appearing on the roster must be registered with RAS by November 2.
 - Registered Player – means they have paid all fees and provided all information necessary.
 - Registered Coach – means they have completed all certifications pertaining to the RAS bylaws by the December 31 deadline and they appear on a roster submitted to RAS by November 2.

II. CRITICAL DATES

1. The deadline for any “AA” “A”, “B”, or “C” team to be registered with RAS to be eligible for Provincials is November 2 of the current season.
2. The deadline for the Provincial Championship Entry Form and appropriate fees to be submitted to RAS is November 15 of the current season.
3. The deadline to register with RAS to be eligible to compete in Provincial Championships is December 31 of the current season.
4. The certification deadline for all bench staff is December 31 of the current season.
5. The Provincial Roster Form submission deadline is January 31 of the current season.
6. The deadline for an Affiliated Athlete to be registered with RAS is December 31 of the current season.

7. The deadline for the Provincial Roster Form to be completed and submitted to RAS is January 31 of the current season.
8. An injured athlete may be replaced upon producing a Doctor's memorandum from January 31 to the start of competition of the current season.

III. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS HOSTED

a) "AA" Championships

- This Championship may be held for female teams in the U14, U16, and U19 age divisions.
- These Championships are open to teams who are registered as AA by the registration date of November 2 of the current season. Teams compete in this Championship for the right to represent Saskatchewan at the Western Canadian Ringette Championships (U14) and the Canadian Ringette Championships (U16 and U19).
- All participants competing in this Championship must meet the participation requirements for the regional or national event for which they are attempting to qualify to attend.
- More than 2 teams must enter to hold a Championship in these divisions. Exceptions to this are teams playing off to attend the Canadian Ringette Championships.

b) "A" Championships

- These Championships may be held annually for female, male, or co-ed teams in the U14, U16, U19 and 18+ age divisions.
- These Championships are for registered "A" level teams, or a team comprised of registered "A" and/or "B" athletes if a registered "A" team does not exist in the Association.
- The winners of the U16A, U19A and 18+A divisions will represent Saskatchewan at the Western Canadian Ringette Championships. The first place (1st) team will be Team Saskatchewan with the second place (2nd) team being Team Host when applicable.
- More than 2 teams must enter to hold a Championship in these divisions. Exceptions to this are teams playing off to attend the Western Canadian Ringette Championships and the U14A division.

c) "B" Championships

- These Championships may be held for female, male, and co-ed teams in the U14, U16, U19 and 18+ age divisions.
- All teams registered in an age division are eligible for Provincial Championships in that division.
- More than 2 teams must enter to hold a Championship in these divisions.

d) "C" Championships

- These Championships may be held for female, male, and co-ed teams in the 18+ age division.
- Teams must be registered as "C" at the RAS registration deadline to be eligible for this Championship.
- More than 2 teams must enter to hold a Championship in these divisions.

IV. ENTRY PROCEDURE

a) “AA”, “A”, “B”, and “C” Championships

- Local Association Roster Deadline to RAS is November 2 of the current season.
 - Provincial Entry Deadline November 15 of the current season.
 - Provincial Roster Deadline January 31 of the current season.
- The Local Association must complete a Provincial Championship Entry Form and submit the appropriate entry fees to the RAS office by November 15 of the current playing season. Additional fees may occur if more than two (2) teams enter a Championship.

V. WITHDRAWING FROM A CHAMPIONSHIP

- Any team withdrawing from a Championship between November 15 and December 15 will forfeit half their entry fee.
- Any teams withdrawing from a Championship after December 15 will forfeit their entire entry fee.

VI. TEAM ROSTERS & BENCH STAFF REQUIREMENTS

a) “AA” Championships

- Teams will be allowed a maximum of five (5) bench staff, consistent with the requirements for the Western Canadian or Canadian Ringette Championships.
- All coaches must have attained their complete certification as per the Ringette Canada Coaching Certification Chart. All divisions require a minimum of one (1) certified female coach of 18 years or over. Teams are allowed a maximum of one (1) certified manager (not on the bench) and one (1) certified trainer. The certification deadline for all bench staff is December 31 of the current season.
- All teams must complete and submit a Provincial Championship Roster form to the RAS office by January 31 of the current playing season. The roster shall include a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of 22 athletes for the Canadian Ringette Championships and 18 for the Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- An athlete may only appear on one “AA” roster each season.
- Affiliate athletes who are affiliated to a “AA” team, will only be allowed to participate as an athlete in one additional Provincial “A” Championship. Registered “AA” athletes are only allowed to compete in the Provincial “AA” Championship in the division in which they are registered.
- Individuals, who were released to participate on an “A” team in another association, may only appear on an “A” roster for the association in which they have been released to if their association of residence does not have an “A” team to accommodate them, or if they are not chosen to compete on that team.
- Individuals, who were released to participate on a “AA” team in another association, may only appear on an “AA” roster for the association in which they have been released to if their association of residence does not have an “AA” team to accommodate them, or if they are not chosen to compete on that team.

- U14AA teams may only add a goalie provided the team has only one (1) goalie on their roster as of January 31 of the current season.
- An injured participant may be replaced on the roster after January 31, and up to the start of the competition, by producing a doctor’s memorandum indicating their inability to play.

b) “A” Championships

- Teams will be allowed a maximum of five (5) bench staff, consistent with the requirements for the Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- All coaches must have attained their complete certification as per the Ringette Canada Coaching Certification Chart. All divisions require a minimum of one (1) certified female coach of 18 years or over. Teams are allowed a maximum of one (1) certified manager (not on the bench) and one (1) certified trainer. The certification deadline for all bench staff is December 31 of the current season.
 - Note: 18+A teams are only required to have a certified coach if intending to attend the Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- All teams must complete and submit a Provincial Championship Roster form to the RAS office by January 31 of the current playing season. The roster shall include a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of 18 for the Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- Athletes may only participate on one (1) team per Championship weekend.
- Individuals, who were released to participate on an “A” team in another association, may only appear on an “A” roster for the association in which they have been released to if their association of residence does not have an “A” team to accommodate them, or if they are not chosen to compete on that team.
- Player pick-ups must be of eligible age and the same or lower tier and may only appear on one “A” roster.
- Eligible player pick-ups include any registered player as of December 31 of the current season who resides within the boundaries of their zone and is of the appropriate age.
- An injured participant may be replaced on the roster after January 31, up to the start of the competition, upon producing a doctor’s memorandum indicating their inability to play.

c) “B”/ “C” Championships

- Teams will be allowed a maximum of five (5) bench staff per team.
- All coaches must have attained their complete certification as per the Ringette Canada Coaching Certification Chart. All divisions require a minimum of one (1) certified female coach of 18 years or over. Teams are allowed a maximum of one (1) certified manager (not on the bench) and one (1) certified trainer. The certification deadline for all bench staff is December 31 of the current season.
- All teams must complete and submit a Provincial Championship Roster form to the RAS office by January 31 of the current playing season. The roster shall include a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of 18 athletes.
- Athletes may only participate on one (1) team per Championship weekend.

- All teams can add one (1) goaltender to their roster, regardless of the team's roster size and whether or not that team already has a goaltender(s). These pick-up goaltenders must meet the player pick-up definition mentioned above and will only be allowed to participate as a goaltender and not a skater. Teams must apply to RAS to secure a goaltender from outside of their association. Teams can only dress 18 athletes for a game.
- An injured participant may be replaced by a player pick-up on the roster after January 31, to total the roster to 12 skaters, upon producing a Doctor's memorandum indicating her/his inability to play. The replacement must be as outlined in the player pick-up definition above.
- Affiliate athletes who are affiliated to one (1) other roster, must be on both rosters submitted to RAS as of November 2 of the current season to be allowed to participate in the Provincial "B" Championship.
- The registered roster as of November 2 must not exceed 18 athletes including Affiliate Athletes.

VII. MANAGER AND TRAINER CERTIFICATION

a) Criteria for Participating as a Manager

- All persons designated as managers must be certified under the Ringette Canada Managers Certification Program. There are no re-certification requirements once certification has been obtained.

b) Criteria for Participating as a Trainer

- The minimum criteria to participate as a Trainer at the RAS Provincial Championships shall be the completion of any certified First Aid course, 7 hours or more in duration, which includes the following content: Principles of First Aid and Safety, Artificial Respiration, Wounds and Bleeding, Shock, Unconsciousness and Fainting, Fractures, Head and Spinal injuries, Joint injuries and Medical conditions (i.e. Diabetes, Asthma, etc.). Certification must be valid (i.e. cannot have expired) during the Championship(s) in which the individual is participating as a Trainer. Proof of certification must be submitted with the Provincial Championship Roster Form.
- For RAS purposes, the expiry deadline of trainer's certification for individuals in a medical profession (i.e. doctors, nurses, paramedics, etc.) will be set for five (5) years after they have originally submitted proof of certification. After which, they must resubmit a new copy of their certification.
- Any individual attending the Canadian Ringette Championships or the Western Canadian Ringette Championships will be required to submit a copy of their trainer's certification every year.

VIII. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMATS AND ICE REQUIREMENTS

- The format for the Provincial Championships will be as determined by RAS and will be based on the availability of ice and the number of teams entered in each division.

IX. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Ringette Canada Official Rules will be enforced.
2. All rules and regulations contained in the RAS Policy and Procedures Manual will apply in their entirety to this competition.
3. All teams were required to submit rosters to the RAS office by January 31 for verification. Any changes to these rosters must be reported and approved by the RAS prior to the Championship. Therefore, only persons on the approved rosters will be listed on the game sheets and allowed to participate.
4. **ALL** team staff listed on the game sheet must sign in for each game at the RAS control desk at the rink prior to the start of each game.
5. Home and visiting teams will be designated on all game sheets. If uniform colours conflict, the visiting team will be required to change. As noted on the team roster forms, teams will be required to wear their home jerseys unless otherwise determined by RAS.
6. No jewelry (with the exception of medical alert items) will be permitted for any on-ice participant. Any athlete found to be wearing jewelry on the ice during the game will be assessed a Delay of Game penalty. This rule will be strictly enforced throughout the Championship.
7. Teams must be ready to play at the scheduled game time.
8. Teams will be allowed on the ice before the officials up to a maximum of 5 minutes prior to scheduled game time. Officials will not enter the ice surface until the scheduled game time.
9. In the U14AA, U14A, U14B, U16A, U16B, U19A, U19B, 18+A, 18+B, and 18+C divisions, there will be a 3-minute warm-up before the game and a 2-minute break between periods. Teams must be ready to immediately start play when the 3-minute warm-up and 2-minute break between periods are complete. There will be no additional time allowed. Any team not ready to immediately start play at the end of the 3-minute warm-up or 2-minute break between periods will be assessed a Delay of Game penalty.
10. In the U16AA and U19AA divisions, there will be a 3-minute warm-up before the game and a 30-second break between periods 1-2 and 3-4, and a 2-minute break between periods 2-3. Teams must be ready to immediately start play when the 3-minute warm-up and the 30-second or 2-minute break between periods are complete. There will be no additional time allowed. Any team not ready to immediately start play at the end of the 3-minute warm-up, 30-second or 2-minute break between periods will be assessed a Delay of Game penalty.
11. All games in the U14AA, U14A, U14B, U16A, U16B, U19A, U19B, 18+A, 18+B, and 18+C divisions will consist of two 20-minute stop-time periods. All games in these divisions will be played until a winner is declared. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, consecutive 20-minute sudden victory periods will be played until a winner is declared. Possession of the ring to start the overtime period will be determined by a coin toss, with the home team calling. The team winning the coin toss will get the opening free pass and the other team will get the choice of ends. If additional overtime periods are required, possession of the ring for the opening free pass will alternate between teams. Teams will also exchange ends for each overtime period.

12. All games in the U16AA and U19AA divisions will consist of four 10-minute stop-time periods. All games in these divisions will be played until a winner is declared. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, consecutive 10-minute sudden victory periods will be played until a winner is declared. Possession of the ring to start the overtime period will be determined by a coin toss, with the home team calling. The team winning the coin toss will get the opening free pass and the other team will get the choice of ends. If additional overtime periods are required, possession of the ring for the opening free pass will alternate between teams. Teams will also exchange ends for each overtime period.
13. Regulation game winners will be awarded 3 points, while the losing teams will receive 0 points. In the event of overtime, game winners will be awarded 2 points and losing teams will receive 1 point.
14. All rules are at the sole discretion of the on-ice officials and officers/designates of RAS. Officials' judgement calls are not subject to protest.

X. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

In all divisions at all ages, the following series will be played to determine the two teams to participate in the Championship game.

- a. Two (2) teams, there shall be a best of three game (2) playoff. If a third game is not needed the ice will be given to the home team as a team practice ice.
- b. Three (3) teams, a double round robin series will be played. The top two (2) teams advance to the Championship game; no bronze medal will be awarded.
- c. Four (4) or Five (5) teams, a single round-robin series will be played. Semi-Finals will be 1st place vs 4th place and 2nd place vs 3rd place. Winners of the semi-finals will advance to the Gold medal game and defeated teams will advance to the Bronze medal game.
- d. Six (6) teams, all teams will be put in a random draw to determine a team number of 1-6. Each team will play for (4) round robin games; Team 1 vs. 2, 4, 5 & 6, Team 2 vs. 1, 3, 4 & 6, Team 3 vs. 2, 4, 5 & 6, Team 4 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5, Team 5 vs. 1, 3, 4 & 6, Team 6 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5. Following round-robin play, teams will be ranked 1-6 based on points and the tie-breaker procedure. Semi-Finals will be 1st place vs. 4th place and 2nd place vs. 3rd place. Winners of the semi-finals will advance to the Gold medal game and defeated teams will advance to the Bronze medal game.
- e. Seven (7) teams, all teams will be put in a random draw to determine a team number of 1-7. Each team will play in four (4) round robin games; Team 1 vs. 4, 5, 6 & 7, Team 2 vs. 3, 5, 6 & 7, Team 3 vs. 2, 5, 6 & 7, Team 4 vs. 1, 5, 6 & 7, Team 5 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4, Team 6 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4, Team 7 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4. Following round-robin play, teams will be ranked 1-7 based on points and the tie-breaker procedure. Semi-Finals will be 1st place vs. 4th place and 2nd place vs. 3rd place. Winners of the semi-finals will advance to the Gold medal game and defeated teams will advance to the Bronze medal game.
- f. Eight (8) teams, the division will be divided into two (2) pools for round-robin play. The 1st place team of each pool will receive a bye to the semi-finals. The 2nd place team in Pool A will play the 3rd place team in Pool B, and the 2nd place team in Pool B will play the 3rd place team in Pool A. Winners of these games will move on to the semi-finals (winner of 2nd place Pool A vs 3rd place

Pool B to play 1st place Pool B and winner of 2nd place Pool B vs 3rd place Pool A to play 1st place Pool A). Winners of the semi-finals will advance to the Gold medal game and defeated teams will advance to the Bronze medal game.

Point Structure

All games will be played until a winner is declared. Teams will receive three (3) points for a win and zero (0) points for a loss in regulation play. If a game requires overtime (OT), teams will receive two (2) points for an OT win and one (1) point for an OT loss. The team with the most points in each division will be declared the 1st place team in that division. The 2nd place team is the team having the second highest number of points, etc.

Breaking of Ties in Standings

When two (2) or more teams have an equal number of points after the completion of round-robin play, the highest of the tied teams will be determined in the following order using the "Official Score" of the games. In order to apply tie-breaking rules A through C, all teams must have played each other in round-robin play.

- A. The winner of more game(s) between each other during the round robin will be declared the highest position.
- B. If still tied, the team having the greatest positive difference between goals for and goals against in games between the tied teams in the round robin will be declared the highest position.
- C. If still tied, the team having the least total goals against in games between the tied teams during the round-robin will be declared the highest position.
- D. If still tied, the team having the greatest positive difference between goals for and goals against in all games during the round-robin will be declared the highest position.
- E. If still tied, the tied team with the least total goals against in all games during the round-robin will be declared the highest position.
- F. If still tied, the team having the lowest number of penalty minutes in games between the tied teams will be declared the highest position.
- G. If still tied, the team having the least amount of penalty minutes in all round-robin games will be declared the highest position.
- H. If still tied, a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

Important Notes:

1. This procedure shall be followed in sequence until the tie is broken (i.e. one team is eliminated from the tie). Once one team is eliminated from the tie, the procedure reverts back to (A) in breaking of ties in the standings.
2. This procedure, in most cases, will declare the team in the HIGHEST position. However, in some cases, the procedure will declare the LOWEST position between tied teams, and that team shall be dropped from the tie-breaking procedure (i.e. the top two teams remain tied). In these cases, the procedure shall also revert back to (A) in breaking of ties in the standings to break the tie between those teams that remain tied.

3. In all cases, the maximum difference (spread) between goals for and against in each game is seven (7) goals. This is the "Official Score".
4. If after round-robin play teams are tied for a position which entitles a team to participate in any of the championship games (gold, bronze or semi-final games), the following rules will apply:
 - a. Once tied teams have been ranked, from highest to lowest, then ten (10) minute mini game(s), starting with the two (2) lowest-ranked teams, will be played to determine the team(s) who advance(s) to either the semi-finals or medal games.
 - b. If three (3) or more teams are tied for one position, then the two lowest-ranked teams will play in a mini game, and the winner of this mini game will move on to play the next highest-ranked team directly following the previous mini game. This process repeats with each winner successively playing the higher ranked team until there is one winner from the mini games.
 - c. If three (3) or more teams are tied for two (2) positions, then the team ranked first (1st) through the normal tie-breaker procedure, shall automatically advance and the mini game procedure would be applied to determine the second position between the two lower ranked teams.
 - d. For more than two (2) positions teams will be ranked by using the tie-breaker procedure and mini games will be used to determine the last available spot between the lowest ranked teams.

Mini Games

- Each mini game will consist of one (1) ten (10) minute, fully played, stop-time period. If the score of a mini game is tied at the end of the regulation time, successive sudden victory overtime periods of the same duration will be played until a winner is declared.
- Playing rules for the mini game will be applied as though the game was tied at 0-0 with the ten (10) minutes remaining in regulation time. The higher seeded team, following the application of the normal tie-breaking procedure, will be designated as the HOME team and will be awarded the free pass to start the mini game and the choice of ends. Additional period(s) shall be considered OT and a coin toss will determine ring possession and choice of ends as per regular OT rules found in Point Structure.
- Each team is entitled to one (1) thirty (30) second timeout per mini game and one (1) additional time out per overtime period.

XI. PARTICIPANT VERIFICATION

- All bench staff from each team participating in a Provincial Championship must sign their game sheet before each of their games. These signatures will verify that all individuals appearing on the bench as team staff correspond with those listed on the game sheet and that the identity of all athletes corresponds with the game sheet. All bench staff falsifying information or identities will be immediately dismissed from the competition and may face suspension by the RAS Board of Directors.

XII. BREAKING TIES IN STANDINGS

- All games will be played until a winner is declared. Teams will receive three (3) points for a win and zero (0) points for a loss. If a game requires overtime (OT), teams will receive two (2) points for an OT win and one (1) point for an OT loss. When two or more teams have an equal number of points in the standings, the tie-breaking procedure, as outlined in the Official Rules of Ringette, will apply. Mini games will be used if the normal tie-breaking procedure will eliminate a team from any of the championship games (gold, bronze, or semi-final games). Mini games will be administered as per the RAS Tournament Structure guidelines.

XIII. PROTESTS

a) Protest and Grievance Committee

- The Official Supervisor will chair the Provincial Championship Protest and Disciplinary Committee. The Chair will appoint two (2) designates and one (1) alternate. A minimum of three (3) people must serve on this committee. This committee may include but is not limited to, representation from, a RAS Board member, an official participating in the Provincial Championship, RAS Executive Director or Technical Director.

b) Circumstances for a Protest

- No protests shall be entertained against an official's judgment. Protests may be based on the belief that an infringement or misrepresentation of the rules was applied.

c) Protest Procedures

- A Protest must be submitted in writing along with a \$100 deposit (cash, money order, or certified cheque) to a RAS representative within thirty (30) minutes upon completion of the game they are protesting. The Protest and Grievance Committee will immediately notify the coach of the non-filing team of receipt of the same. The Committee will meet within two (2) hours of notification of the protest. Should an unforeseen circumstance not allow the committee to meet before the next game of the suspended individual, that individual will remain suspended until the committee may meet. The Committee may address on-ice officials, minor officials, and one representative from each team.
- The decision of the Protest and Grievance Committee will be communicated to both teams within one (1) hour of the Committee's meeting. The decision is final and non-appealable. If the protest is upheld a refund of the \$100 bond will be granted.