

Ringette Association of Saskatchewan (RAS)

Screening Policy

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a) "*Police Record Check*" – A search of the RCMP criminal records database to determine whether the individual has a criminal record (PRC)
 - b) "*Vulnerable Sector Check*" – A secondary part of the Police Record Check, for individuals who are volunteering in a vulnerable sector (such as with minor athletes or with persons with a disability), which also searches for the existence of any pardoned sex offenses and/or charges (VS)

Purpose

2. The RAS understands that screening personnel and volunteers is a vital part of providing a safe sporting environment. The RAS is responsible, by law, to do everything reasonable to provide a safe and secure environment for participants in its programs, activities, and events. The purpose of screening is to identify individuals involved with the RAS's activities who may pose a risk to the RAS and its participants.

Application of this Policy

3. This Policy applies to all individuals whose position with the RAS is one of trust or authority which may relate to, at a minimum, finances, supervision, young people, or people with a disability.
4. Not all individuals associated with the RAS will be required to undergo screening through a PRC-VS and a Screening Disclosure Form because not all positions pose a risk of harm to the RAS or to its participants. The RAS will determine which individuals will be subject to screening using the following guidelines (variations from the guidelines are at the sole discretion of the RAS):

Level 1 – Low Risk - Individuals involved in low risk assignments who are not in a supervisory role, not directing others, not involved with financial/cash management, and/or do not have access to minors or people with a disability. Examples:

- a) Parents, youth, or volunteers who are helping out on a non-regular informal basis

Level 2 – Medium Risk – Individuals involved in medium risk assignments who may be in a supervisory role, may direct others, may be involved with financial/cash management, and/or who may have limited access to minors or people with a disability. Examples:

- a) Assistant coaches or volunteer head coaches of a club
- b) Coaches who are typically under the supervision of another coach

Level 3 – High Risk – Individuals involved in high risk assignments who occupy positions of trust and/or authority, have a supervisory role, direct others, are involved with financial/cash management, and who have access to minors or people with a disability. Examples:

- a) Full time coaches with a private club that is affiliated with the RAS
- b) Coaches who travel with athletes
- c) Coaches who could be alone with athletes

Policy

5. It is the RAS's policy that:
 - a) Level 1 individuals will:
 - i. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form
 - ii. Complete an Application Form indicating that the individual has read and understands the

- iii. Provide one letter of reference related to the position sought
 - iv. Participate in orientation as determined by the RAS
- b) Level 2 individuals will:
- i. Complete and provide a PRC
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form
 - iii. Complete an Application Form indicating that the individual has read and understands the RAS's policies and procedures
 - iv. Provide one letter of reference related to the position sought
 - v. Participate in orientation as determined by the RAS
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
- c) Level 3 individuals will:
- i. Complete and provide a PRC-VS
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form
 - iii. Complete an Application Form indicating that the individual has read and understands the RAS's policies and procedures
 - iv. Provide one letter of reference related to the position sought
 - v. Participate in orientation as determined by the RAS
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
- d) Failure to participate in the screening process as outlined in this policy will result in the individual's ineligibility for the position sought.
- e) When the Screening Committee is of the opinion that, notwithstanding a conviction, a person can occupy a position within the RAS without adversely affecting the safety of the RAS, any individual, athlete or member of the RAS through the imposition of such terms and conditions as are deemed appropriate, the Screening Committee may approve an individuals' participation.
- f) If an individual subsequently receives a conviction for, or is found guilty of, an offense they will report this circumstance immediately to the RAS.
- g) If an individual provides falsified or misleading information, the individual will immediately be removed from their the RAS position and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the RAS's *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Screening Committee

6. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the RAS's Screening Committee which is a committee of three (3) to five (5) members appointed by the RAS. The RAS will ensure that the members appointed to the Screening Committee possess the requisite skills, knowledge and abilities to accurately assess PRC-VSs and the Screening Disclosure Form and render decisions under this Policy. Quorum for the Screening Committee will be three members.
7. The RAS may remove any member of the Screening Committee. When a position on the Screening Committee becomes vacant, either because a member has been removed or because a member has resigned, the RAS will appoint a replacement member.
8. The Screening Committee will carry out its duties, in accordance with the terms of this policy, independent of

the Board.

9. The Screening Committee is responsible for reviewing all PRC-VSs and Screening Disclosure Forms and, based on such reviews, making decisions regarding the appropriateness of individuals filling positions within the RAS. In carrying out its duties, the Screening Committee may consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer screening specialists, or any other person.

How to Obtain a Police Record Check or Vulnerable Sector Check (PRC-VS)

10. Individuals may obtain a PRC-VSs by visiting an RCMP office or police station, submitting two pieces of government-issued identification (one of which must have a photo), and completing any required paperwork. Per RAS discretion, fees may also be required and may be reimbursed by the RAS upon the submission of a legitimate receipt and volunteer expense form.
11. Fingerprinting may be required if there is a positive match with the individual's gender and birth date.

Procedure

12. The Screening requirements defined in this policy will be submitted to the RAS in an envelope marked "Confidential":

Ringette Association of Saskatchewan
Attn: Screening Committee
#300-1734 Elphinstone Street
Regina, SK
S4T 1K1

13. If required, the RAS will provide a letter confirming the potential position within the RAS.
14. Individuals who do not undertake the screening requirements required by this policy will receive a notice to that effect and will be informed that their application and/or position will not proceed until such time as the screening requirements are followed.
15. The Screening Committee will review all submitted documents and determine if the individual has committed a relevant offense.
16. Subsequent to its' review, the Screening Committee, by majority vote, will:
 - a) Approve an individual's participation; or
 - b) Deny an individual's participation; or
 - c) Approve an individual's participation subject to terms and conditions as the Screening Committee deems appropriate
17. If an individual's documents do not reveal a relevant offense, the Screening Committee will advise that the individual is eligible. If an individual's documents reveal a relevant offense, the Screening Committee will render its decision and provide notice of its decision. After providing notice, the Screening Committee will return or destroy the PRC-VSs.
18. PRC-VSs are valid for a period of three years and Screening Disclosure Forms must be completed on an annual basis. However, the Screening Committee may request that an individual provide a PRC-VS or a Screening Disclosure Form for review and consideration at any time. Such request will be in writing and reasons will be provided for such a request.

Relevant Offenses

19. Provided a pardon has not been granted, the following examples are considered to be relevant offenses:

- a) If imposed in the last five years:
 - i. Any offense involving the use of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to impaired driving
 - ii. Any offense for trafficking and/or possession of drugs and/or narcotics
 - iii. Any offense involving conduct against public morals
- b) If imposed in the last ten years:
 - i. Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
 - ii. Any offense involving a minor or minors
- c) If imposed at any time:
 - i. Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
 - ii. Any sexual offense
 - iii. Any offense involving theft or fraud

Records

20. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, or for use in legal, quasi-legal, or disciplinary proceedings.

Criminal Convictions

21. An individual's conviction for any of the following offenses may result in expulsion from the RAS and/or removal from designated positions, competitions, programs, activities and events upon the sole discretion of the RAS:

- a) Any offense of physical or psychological violence
- b) Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
- c) Any offense involving trafficking of illegal drugs
- d) Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
- e) Any sexual offense
- f) Any offense involving theft or fraud