

2.3 ADULT RINGETTE

Policy Section	Change	Date Approved
All	New Policy	July 26, 2026

A. PROGRAM MANDATE:

The Adult (18+) Program provides the continuation of fun, friendship, exercise, competition and fair play for adults who wish to play ringette at the 18+ level. This policy applies to 18+ athletes registered with Member Organizations within Ringette BC but does not apply to athletes participating in the National Ringette League (NRL).

Adult Ringette will follow all applicable Ringette BC policies and guidelines, and abide by Ringette Canada's Rule and Casebook.

B. PURPOSE:

- i. To provide ringette to all players at their level of ability
- ii. To create programs geared to the adult participating in ringette.
- iii. To provide a continuing program at an adult level for athletes coming up through the minor system.
- iv. To support participants in being Active for Life

C. LEVELS OF PLAY:

- i. **A Division** – Athletes who have aged out of AA or A programs but still want to play at a competitive level. These teams can qualify for the Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- ii. **B Division** – Typically former A players or strong B players looking for a balance of competition and fun.
- iii. **C Division** – Geared toward former B players and those looking for a more recreational experience.
- iv. **D Division** – Geared towards weaker B players, new adult ringette players, players over the age of 40, previous athletes needing or seeking a slower pace due to age, injury or hiatus.

Levels of play do not have set age restrictions. Levels are focused on calibre of play, experience of the team/individuals and the type of competition/participation desired.

In addition to standard registration and participation as a rostered player on a team in one of the divisions above, 18+ athletes may register as a Spare Athlete and be eligible for pick-up as outlined in the Ringette BC Player Pick up Policy.

D. REGISTRATION



All 18+ participants shall register in accordance with the Ringette BC Player and Team Registration policy.

E. BENCH STAFF REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Team Staff in the 18+ divisions must meet the requirements as listed in the Ringette BC Team Leadership Qualifications Policy.
- b. In the absence of a coach, 18+ teams must designate a player as their coach, who will be responsible for serving and upholding any potential suspensions or discipline.
- c. All Team staff are required to sign the Coaching Code of Conduct Agreement at the beginning of the season.

F. PLAYER PICK UP

Player Pick up in the 18+ Divisions will follow the Ringette BC Player Pick Up Policy for all sanctioned League and Tournament play.

G. DETERMINING LEVEL OF PLAY

- i. Teams will self-declare their level of play utilizing factors such as
 - Individual player skill level and experience
 - Overall team skill level and experience
 - Type of competition and participation experience desired
- ii. Initial Level of Play Declarations must be submitted to the appropriate League Representative no later than September 15th
 - In the absence of a League, declarations should be submitted to Ringette BC
- iii. Leagues should
 - Facilitate tiering games to support with determine level of play and proper placement within local and tournament play
 - AND/OR Schedule league games in phases to allow for movement within the season based on results
- iv. As per the Ringette BC Player Movement Policy, athletes may be required to move up a division at the direction of their Local Club Association, League or Ringette BC.

H. COMPETITION

- i. League Play
 - Where applicable, 18+ teams will participate in league play as directed by their local league
 - Where possible, teams should be split based on Level of Play
 - As needed, leagues may interlock divisions to provide appropriate opportunities for game play
 - Teams cannot play more than one division apart from their declared division
- ii. Tournaments
 - Tournaments may offer any of the 18+ divisions at their events
 - Where possible, tournaments should offer separate divisions based on Level of Play

- When three (3) or less teams have registered in a division, two adjacent divisions may be combined to support participation, however teams must be given the opportunity to withdraw without penalty when a combined division is offered.
- iii. Provincial Championships
 - Pending appropriate resources, Ringette BC will organize and facilitate an Adult Ringette Provincial Championships each season for the 18+ A, B and C divisions.
 - Teams must commit as per the Commitment to Attend Deadline communicated each year and follow all other Ringette BC guidelines and policies related to event participation.
 - Divisions will be hosted with a minimum of 3 registered teams
 - No combined divisions will be offered
 - The 18+ A, B and C divisions will be held in a Championship Format
 - Pending resource and facility availability, the 18+D division may also be offered in a Jamboree format at the Adult Ringette Provincial Championships.

I. ADVANCEMENT AND RETREAT OF TEAMS

i. Within a Season

- Teams may request an Advancement (move up) or Retreat (move down) of their Level of Play no later than December 1st.
 - Movement between divisions within local league play (and tournaments if accepted) is allowed after this date, however the team will remain in their Declared Division at the time of their Commitment to Attend for Provincial Championships.
- Requests should be submitted to their appropriate League for approval
 - Leagues will review the requests and communicate the results to the requesting team, their Home Club Association, and Ringette BC
 - Requests should be reviewed by at least two people, including a Division Manager (if applicable)
- Club Associations, Leagues and/or Ringette BC may require a team to Advance to a higher division within a season based on results to date.
- In the absence of a League, Advancement or Retreat requests within a season should be submitted to Ringette BC.

ii. Ahead of the following season

- Teams may be directed to move up or down a division based on their results from the previous season
 - **Advancement** - if 80% of your rostered team returns and you finished in first place in League Play and/or Provincial Championships, you will be required to move up a division the following year

- **Retreat** - if 80% of your team returns and you placed at the bottom of your division in League Play and/or Provincial Championships, it will be suggested that you move down a division the following year

J. UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Ringette BC encourages the development of University teams. These teams must abide by all applicable Ringette BC policies, as well as those of the competition or event they are attending.

University teams are formed with the purpose of attending the University Challenge Cup, or other University Ringette events held across Canada.

ELIGIBILITY

- Players must be registered in post-secondary education in BC. There is no minimum number of courses the athletes must take.
- Players must be a registered member in good standing with Ringette BC.
- Players can be rostered to one 18+ team in BC and one University team at the same time.
- University teams will not participate in local league play but may schedule exhibition games with local 18+ teams.
- Players who wish to play only University Ringette should contact Ringette BC for directions on how to register for the season.

REGISTRATION

- University Ringette teams must submit their rosters to Ringette BC no less than 3 weeks prior to the start of any event they are registered to attend

*Updated July 2026