

ADULT DEVELOPMENT TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROGRAM MANDATE	1
PURPOSE	1
LEVELS OF PLAY	1
MEMBERSHIP	2
AGE DIVISIONS	2
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	2
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES	4
OUTREACH ASSISTANCE	4
INSTRUCTIONAL PLAYER SKILLS SESSIONS	4
COACHES CLINICS/OFFICIATING CLINICS	4
RESOURCES MATERIAL	4
REGIONAL/PROVINCIAL AND INTERPROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS	4
ADULT RINGETTE CAMP	4
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS PROGRAM	5
ADULT SANCTION RULES	6
ADULT PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	6
OPEN SUBSTITUTES	8
BENCH STAFF SUSPENSIONS	9
SANCTIONED EVENTS	9
BENCH STAFF REQUIREMENTS	9
SAFETY	11
STICK CHECKS	11
EQUIPMENT CHECKS	11
FACEMASKS AND HELMETS	11
ALCOHOL AND DRUG CONSUMPTION	11

1. PROGRAM MANDATE

The Adult Development Program was established to provide the continuation of the sport of Ringette™ for the following age divisions:

- Open - 19 and up (no ceiling)
- Masters - 30 and up (no ceiling)

As participants in the sport of Ringette™ at the adult level, the Committee recognizes you have specific needs and requirements, many of which are very different from those of youth. Your Provincial Standing Committee would like to emphasize that the organization and development of programs and activities has been geared to meet your specific needs and requirements. In these times of change, teams should maintain a degree of flexibility that will provide the adult players with a place to play at their level of skill. See your ADP Co-ordinator for details.

a. Purpose

- i. To provide Ringette™ to all players at their level of ability.
- ii. To provide resource material to these players to enhance their enjoyment and knowledge of the game.
- iii. To create programs geared to the adult participating in Ringette™.
- iv. To provide a continuing program at an adult level for athletes coming up through the minor system. (“Ringette™ for Life”).
- v. To encourage FUN - FITNESS - FRIENDSHIP.

b. Levels of Play

- i. A: For the competitive athlete who plays with others of the same calibre; with few exceptions, players coming from the minor system would find this level most suitable.
- ii. B: For players with good skating and Ringette™ skills and may have come up through the minor leagues.
- iii. C: For players with moderate skating and Ringette™ skills.
- iv. Recreational: The least skilled of the levels, enjoyed by players new to the sport as well as those with experience. Includes: beginners/schools/outreach.

- v. Master A/B/C/Rec: Athletes over the age of 30 who meet the above criteria for the level.

c. Membership

- i. All adult affiliates (players, bench staff, volunteers, etc.) shall register in accordance with O.R.A. Registration Membership Classes. Please refer to the Membership Services Section of this Operating Manual. Adult teams/groups who are not currently affiliated with a Minor (youth) Ringette Association will be charged a \$75.00 Registered Member fee.
- ii. The Adult Development Program is excluded from the Two Player Rule, as outlined in the Games and Tournaments and Membership Services sections of the Operating Manual.
- iii. Team registration is due by **NOVEMBER 15th**. Team Registration Form changes must be completed by **JANUARY 8th**.

d. Age Divisions

The Regional ADP Co-ordinator and the Regional Executive must approve all exceptions to Opens playing out of their age category, with the exception of the Provincial Championships. There will be no exceptions made to the Masters age division for sanctioned play.

- i. Open players over the age of 19 years cannot play below their respective age level without approval from the Regional ADP Co-ordinator and Regional Executive.
- ii. Underage players require a release from their home association to play at the Open level regardless of which association is receiving the player. Please refer to the Membership Services Section of the Operating Manual.

e. Goals and Objectives

- i. To liaise and communicate with the Provincial Standing Committees and the Board of Directors on behalf of the adult participants.
- ii. To determine adult potential membership.
- iii. To promote the Provincial A and B Championships in the Open division and develop Masters and Men's participant divisions.
- iv. To promote the development of Regional B, C and Recreational Championships in the Open and Masters participant divisions.

- v. To encourage the development of community-hosted Invitational Tournaments in the Open and Masters participant divisions.
- vi. To encourage information and resource exchange between Regions.
- vii. To educate and encourage adult membership within the Provincial Sport Association and to utilize the existing technical and administrative programs to service their needs.
- viii. To establish and maintain a working relationship with each Regional Committee.
- ix. To enhance the lines of communication throughout the Community.
- x. To develop and promote the Masters (30 and over) and Men's divisions.
- xi. To liaise and communicate with other local associations within your Region.
- xii. To promote beginners by providing schools and teams with materials necessary within each region.

2. PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

a. Outreach Assistance

If your group would like advice or assistance on starting Adult Ringette or building your current program your Regional Co-ordinator can either help you or direct you to someone else to provide assistance in the areas of communications, promotions, organizing, budgeting, etc.

b. Instructional Player Skills Sessions

The Ontario Ringette Association has a team of qualified Player Skills Instructors who can teach you the fundamentals of skating, goaltending and ringette skills. They also can teach sessions on strategy, basic rules and other informative topics.

c. Coaches Clinics/Officiating Clinics

The O.R.A. offers National Coaching Certification Programs to its members to improve your knowledge of Ringette™ and coaching in general. The N.C.C.P. Technical Level 1 clinic is the place to start. Ontario Ringette also offers all levels of National Officiating Certification Programs to ensure that your referees know the rules and are trained to apply them properly. See the Officiating Development and Coaching Development Sections of this Manual for qualifications.

d. Resource Material

Rulebooks, coaching manuals, game sheets and promotional materials are available for sale to our members. As members you have the right to access these items. For details call the O.R.A. business office.

e. Regional/Provincial and Interprovincial Tournaments

Your team works hard all season. Why not cap it off by playing the best at your level. Currently, the Adult Program has Provincial Championships in Open A and B divisions, and Masters B and C divisions. Regional Championships are offered in some regions in B, C and Recreational divisions. Masters and Men's divisions are being promoted as well for league play.

f. Adult Ringette Camp

Get-Away Camp is offered when required. The program includes on-ice drills, off-ice workshops, intra-camp games and it is geared to the needs of all adult players.

Date: Late September or early October

Place: To be announced

g. **Volunteer Recognition Awards Program**

The Adult Program accepts nominations annually for the Adult Provincial Contribution Award as stated under Membership Services. Submissions for these awards must be made through the ORA office before **APRIL 1st**. The Committee will select a suitable recipient and the Awards will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of Ontario Ringette. Regional Adult Contribution Awards should be submitted to the Region and is chosen by the Regional Executive and presented within the region. Contact your ADP Co-ordinator for more information.

3. ADULT SANCTION RULES

The Open and Masters A, B, C and Recreational levels are the responsibility of the Adult Development Program. The ADP shall be responsible for the Sanctioning of Adult Provincials, Regionals and Recreation level tournaments and championships. All adult tournaments shall be sanctioned per Games and Tournaments procedures.

All divisions that are the responsibility of ADP shall follow G&T procedures, the following exceptions to the Games and Tournaments Program Regulations shall apply.

a. Adult Provincial Championships

Adult Provincial Championships shall be held each year for the Open A and B (female class only), Masters B and C (female class only) and men's divisions as required. Communities may apply to host them through the O.R.A. office. A Provincial Host Guide may be obtained from the office. A community applying to host a Provincial Event must have signed the O.R.A. contract once Board approval has been received.

Note: The Provincial Championship Schedules, will be done by the ORA office staff with input from Games and Tournaments, Adult Development and Officiating Development. This will prevent bias or conflict of interest by those participating in the event.

i. Team Registration

- Any team wishing to participate in the Adult Provincial Championships must inform the Adult Development Program Co-ordinator, in writing, by **JANUARY 8th** along with a \$200.00 non-refundable deposit, Intent to Proceed to Adult Provincials Form (ADP-F-01), Team Registration Form and any Change of Information Form(s). Should there be more than one team vying to represent your region, your ADP Co-ordinator will determine the format for a Provincial Preliminary. The balance of entry fees (as invoiced by the business office) must be received at the O.R.A. office within 15 days of acceptance.

- Players wishing to participate in the Open A and B Provincial Championships must be 19 years of age and over and registered with their team by the proper deadlines. Exceptions must be approved by the ADP Chair in conjunction with the appropriate Regional Co-ordinator. Players wishing to participate in the Masters Divisions must be 30 years of age and over. No exceptions. A composite team can only be made up of players registered on TRFs of the same calibre or lower. (e.g.: A Composite Masters C team can be made up of any player over 30 and registered on an Open C/Rec or a Masters C/Rec team). Composite teams will be accepted in the Masters divisions but the TRF must be in the business office by the **1st OF FEBRUARY**.

At Provincial Championships any tie which will result in a team not being able to participate in a medal game, will require mini-games to be played to determine who will participate in that medal game. (See Games and Tournaments Section for format).

- The Men's Invitational division at the Adult Provincial Championships is an open division. Select teams representing each Region will be accepted. All players must reside within their Regional boundaries. Divisions will be filled based on the number of teams applying. The Men's teams must adhere to all the ORA rules and regulations, including registration deadlines and coaching qualifications.
 - The Host Tournament Chair or designate must consult the Regional Adult Development Program Co-ordinator prior to a tournament to ensure teams are properly seeded. The ADP Committee will meet mid season to evaluate and ensure proper seeding has been done.
- ii. Bench Staff Code of Conduct Agreement for Provincial Championships

All Bench Staff are required to sign a Bench Staff Code of Conduct Agreement (Appendix C-F-01) prior to participating in the Provincial Championships.

iii. Wild Card Teams

The ADP Chair and the Standing Committee in accordance with Games and Tournaments procedures will select Wild Card Teams.

iv. Championship Fees (Entry and Administration)

Championship Entry Fees shall be set by the Host and ORA and will be publicized through the Championship Entry Application. The B, Masters and/or Men's divisions shall be charged a \$30.00 Event Administration Fee payable with the Event Entry Fee. (A level teams pay their Event Administration Fee with their annual membership fees). Any team withdrawing from the Adult Provincial Championships after the withdrawal deadline, **FEBRUARY 1ST**, shall be fined \$500.00, in addition to the Administrative and Team Entry Fees, which are non-refundable.

v. Most Valuable Player Awards

Presented in all divisions. The award is presented in all divisions in memory of Dawn Smale.

vi. Championship Medals

Standardized medals have been pre-purchased for all levels participating at the Adult Championships over the next 3 to 4 years. The ORA office must be contacted to arrange engraving and delivery of the medals for each Championship event. The ORA office will invoice the Host Committee for the medals required.

b. **Open Substitutes**

All substitutes are subject to approval by the ADP Co-ordinator/Chair.

i. Player Substitutes for Invitational Tournaments

NOTE: The substitution procedure is designed to assist association teams who, from time to time, experience a last minute shortage of players due to injury or illness. It is not intended to build a team's roster size, but to avoid any last minute cancellations.

- Eligible players shall be an Ontario Ringette Association registered player.
- Can choose same age division or lower, same calibre or less.
- Eligible players must actually replace a player who is unable to attend part or all of that tournament. If the player they are replacing returns to play, the substitute may NOT continue to play, although they could then replace another player who was injured or called away. The roster can NEVER increase in number as a result of a substitute. The players must be identified as substitutes and home team noted.
- The player may only play for ONE team in that particular tournament.
- Composite teams must be so identified upon application and home teams noted on the T.R.F. Players are allowed to play on composite teams for more than one tournament.
- All substitutes must be listed on the T.R.F. Adjustment Form and be submitted to the Invitational Tournament Host Chair within their respective deadlines and/or at the Event Registration and/or before a game to substitute for a player who had to leave the tournament.
- Any player that appears on more than one T.R.F. Adjustment Form constitutes a violation of sanction rules.

ii. Player Substitutes for Provincial Championships

- Player substitutes will not normally be allowed. However, in most exceptional of cases, player substitutes will be dealt with on an individual basis by the Provincial ADP Chair/designate and the Regional ADP Co-ordinators. A majority of the ADP Standing Committee must agree in each case. The Chair will only vote in the event of a tie.
- Substitute players cannot increase the team roster to more than 10 skaters and a goalie.

c. **Bench Staff Suspensions**

While serving a suspension, a bench staff member must leave the enclosed playing and seating area of the rink so as not to have any influence on the progress of the game. Refusal to do so will result in forfeiture of the game by that team. The offender may also be subject to further suspension by the league or governing body.

d. **Sanctioned Events**

There are five (5) different levels of ORA Sanctioned Events, as follows:

- i. Invitational Tournaments
- ii. Regional Tournaments
- iii. Regional Preliminary Championships/Qualifiers
- iv. Provincial Championships/Qualifiers
- v. For ORA disciplinary purposes, any game between two registered ORA teams or between any other Province's teams with an ORA registered team.

e. **Bench Staff Requirements**

Open/Masters teams are required to meet the guidelines set out in the Coaching Development Section of the Operating Manual.

<u>Open and Masters</u>	Head Coach	Assistance Coach(es)	Manager	Trainer
A	Cert. 1, Tech. 2 & Theory 2	Cert. 1, Tech. 2 & Theory 2	Manager 1	First Aid Certification
B	Cert. 1	Cert. 1	Manager 1	First Aid Certification
C and Recreational	Tech./Prac. 1	Tech./Prac. 1	Manager 1	First Aid Certification

Note: Non-qualified Bench Staff shall not be allowed to participate in O.R.A. Sanctioned Events after **JANUARY 8th**. Should a member of your association Bench Staff violate this rule, it shall result in team disqualification and/or fines levied. There shall be no exceptions and/or appeals to this rule. Refer to Coaching Development Section 3 for further details.

- i. Teams are required to have a Head Coach.
- ii. Teams are required to have a non-playing member of their coaching staff on the bench.
- iii. All Bench Staff must have proper qualifications and be registered on the TRF. Age requirements must be met.
- iv. In seasons in which new rules are in effect, the Head Coach or Assistant Coach of every registered adult team must attend a Rules Clinic or an Officiating Clinic by **JANUARY 8th** of the season.
- v. Refer to the Sanctioned Events Section for play in which coaching requirements must be met.

4. SAFETY

a. Stick Checks

Random stick checks will be made throughout the season to determine the legality/state of player's sticks.

b. Equipment Checks

Random equipment checks will be made throughout the season to determine the legality of players' equipment.

c. Facemasks and Helmets

All players must wear approved facemasks and helmets in accordance with O.R.A. guidelines as of **SEPTEMBER 1, 1997**. Goaltenders must wear approved facemasks and helmets in accordance with ORA guidelines as of **SEPTEMBER 1, 1998**.

d. Alcohol and Drug Consumption

The use of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. Alcohol consumption by minors is strictly prohibited. Alcohol consumption by those of legal age must be handled with discretion and in a manner not demeaning to the Ontario Ringette Association following all laws according to the Liquor License Act of Ontario. Any persons violating these rules are subject to suspension for the remainder of the event.