

POLICY 9
COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS (A AND AA)

9.1 A/AA Program Structuring

- 9.1.1 In accordance with Ringette Canada's long-term athlete development guidelines, SRA introduces A and AA in U14.
- 9.1.2 SRA will use a tryout process for the selection of A and AA teams in U14, U16, and U19 as set out in section 9.2.
- 9.1.3 If there will be an A and AA team in an age division, all players interested in either of these teams will participate in tryouts together. After the AA team is selected, the rankings will be renumbered for selection of the A team. For example, if athletes 1 through 12 are selected to the AA team, the athlete ranked 13th will become 1st in the A pool, the athlete ranked 14th becomes 2nd, and so on.

9.2 A/AA Tryouts

- 9.2.1 Tryout ice times will be designed to serve a dual purpose of skill development and producing evaluation data for ranking purposes.
- 9.2.2 The Director of Athlete Development will be responsible for designing the ice times and preparing all evaluation materials. They will also be responsible for coordinating the timed skating sessions, training timekeepers and evaluators, entering evaluation data, and calculating player rankings. If they are a coach or parent/relative on a team being selected via tryouts, an alternate board member must be responsible for entering evaluation data and calculating player rankings for that team.
- 9.2.3 It will be the joint responsibility of the Director of Coach Development, division commissioners, and the A/AA coaches to find instructors, timekeepers, evaluators, and gate openers for scrimmages.
- 9.2.4 It will be the responsibility of the division commissioners to hand out bibs for each ice time.
- 9.2.5 Unless coaches request input, the Director of Athlete Development will create teams for scrimmages, taking into account evenness of teams and positions.
- 9.2.6 The Office Administrator will be responsible for scheduling referees for scrimmages.
- 9.2.7 Objective data (timed skating) and subjective data (skill ratings) will be collected for each player and combined to create an overall score that represents their relative skill level.

The formula to create overall scores will follow a gradient whereby more weight is given to subjective evaluations as athletes get older (see table below). Weightings will be adjusted in cases where a player missed one or more of the tryout ice times.

9.2.8

	Objective Weighting	Subjective Weighting (Ratings)		
	Timed Skating	Skills Session	Scrimmage	Total Subjective
U10	80%	20%	n/a	20%
U12	70%	15%	15%	30%
U14B	60%	20%	20%	40%
U14A/AA	50%	25%	25%	50%
U16B	50%	25%	25%	50%
U16A/AA	40%	25%	35%	60%
U19B	40%	25%	35%	60%
U19A/AA	30%	30%	40%	70%

- Players' overall evaluation scores will range from 0 to 5, with higher scores reflecting more skill.

9.3 Evaluators

- 9.3.1 Parents/relatives and coaches cannot be timekeepers or evaluators in the age division(s) they are associated with, regardless of what tier they are associated with (A or AA).
- 9.3.2 There should be at least four evaluators at each of the non-timed sessions, preferably with expertise in different areas (offense, defense, and goaltending).
- 9.3.3 U14 and U16 evaluators must be age 18 by December 31st of the current season. U19 evaluators must be age 21 by December 31st of the current season. These age requirements also apply to timekeepers.
- 9.3.4 Since A and AA tryouts are held together, with AA selections taking place first, evaluators must have AA or higher playing experience and/or AA or higher ringette coaching experience.
- 9.3.5 Evaluators (and instructors) will be paid per ice time at a rate determined by SRA.
- 9.3.6 Evaluators are permitted to disclose their ratings to coaches after the ice time (to assist in selection decisions), but not to players, parents/relatives or other members of the ringette community.
- 9.3.7 Coaches are not permitted to disclose evaluation information, verbally or electronically, with anyone outside of the coaching staff. Confidentiality breaches will be subject to disciplinary action.

9.4 Evaluation Results and Team Selection

- 9.4.1 Coaches are required to take the top 65% of evaluated skaters based on their allowable or minimum roster size, rounded down to the nearest player. Coaches can use their discretion to fill the remaining roster spots. Discretionary selections can include players who were unable to participate in tryouts (e.g. due to injury, illness or other reason deemed valid by SRA).
- 9.4.2 If two or more goalies try out but the team, coaches shall have discretion over which one(s) to select, provided their overall evaluation scores are within 1 point of each other on a scale of 0 to 10. If the spread is greater than 1 point, coaches must select the higher ranked goalie(s).
- 9.4.3 Coaches must finalize their roster within 48 hours of the last tryout ice time. Once finalized, coaches are to email the roster to the Office Administrator.
- 9.4.4 Once coaches have selected their team, they can notify players in person or by phone or e-mail.
- 9.4.5 Coaches must submit their final rosters to the SRA office, division commissioner, and VP of Athlete Development within 48 hours of notifying all players.
- 9.4.6 In years where there is a AA team but no A team (stand-alone or double-carded/travelling) in the U14, U16 or U19 divisions, and two or more goalies are trying out for the AA team, coaches will be required to select two goalies, provided that both goalies have an overall score of 7.50 or higher on a scale of 0 to 10. If the second goalie's rating is less than 7.50 but is 7.00 or higher, coaches may still select the goalie if they deem them skilled enough to play at the AA level.