



RINGETTE

2025-2026 Team Formation Process

ONTARIO

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A/AA Commitment



Level of Play Considerations
for Families and Athletes

- ▶ In most cases, the commitment level is more demanding than B and C levels of play, both in time and financially.
- ▶ Coaches often go over this at tryouts and will require the families of the final team roster to sign a contract indicating your acceptance of the commitment level. All A/AA level teams play in the Great Lakes Ringette League (GLRL).
- ▶ There are fewer AA teams, so travel distance is greater and more frequent.
- ▶ 'A' teams will still travel the same distances but have more opportunity for games closer to home.
- ▶ A/AA teams tend to enter more tournaments at farther distances, which could increase the financial burden on families.
- ▶ The main difference is level of play.

How Do Tryouts Work?

STEP 1: Registration and Payment

- register and pay for your tryouts with EACH association that you intend to tryout for.
- some associations will offer packages, some will require payment on the day of the tryout. Please see each associations website for more details.

STEP 2: Tryout Attendance (Open Tryouts)

- Any athlete that has submitted an intent form and has registered and paid can attend the tryout.
- If you cannot make a tryout because of a time conflict, let the coach/association know ASAP.
- If there are tryouts at the same time for multiple associations, you MUST attend the tryouts that are first in your pathway (home, current, closest).
- Attendance is tracked at each tryout.

STEP 3: Invitation Only

- Athletes may be informed they did not make the team after one (1) tryout.
- If cuts are being made you may receive notice that you have been cut (roster spot not offered) or that you are invited back, or you may receive an offer from the team.
- Invite only tryouts are used when teams need to make further cuts after 1-2 tryouts.
- Some coaches/associations will invite back all remaining players to come, while others will only invite back athletes that they need to see again.

How Do Tryouts Work?



▶ Roster Spot Not Offered

- If you receive a 'Roster Spot Not Offered' letter, unfortunately you were not successful at that association's tryouts.
- This means, however, that you are now eligible to receive offers from your next closest association.
- It also means that you may consider trying out for the next level of play (ex. AA to A).
- The roster spot not offered letter is needed as proof of release.

▶ Roster Spot Offered

- If you make the team, you will receive a 'Roster Spot Offered' letter.
- You will have 48 hours to accept or reject the offer.
- If you accept, you are now on the team.
- If you reject the offer, you must start the tryout process over again at your home association.

▶ Roster Spot – Other Association

- If you are trying out at a variety of associations, coaches/associations CANNOT offer you a spot on the roster until you have received written confirmation that you have not made any teams in between (Roster Spot Not Offered Letter).
- If you make a team with an association other than your HOME association, once you have accepted a roster spot, you will be required to fill out the Ringette Ontario Player Release Form.



Home Association

The local association to which the player is eligible to play by residency (Example: I live in Markham, so my home association is Markham-Stouffville).



Current Association

The association to which a player has been released for level of play for the current season will then be considered the player's "Current Association" (Example: Markham-Stouffville player played for Richmond Hill U14AA this season, so they are now current to Richmond Hill).



Closest Association

The next closest association offering the desired level of play as indicated on the 'Player Movement Matrix' (Example: The next closest association to Paris is Cambridge).

PLAYER MOVEMENT MATRIX

KEY TERMS



- ▶ Players **MUST** go to tryouts at their home and/or current association if they offer the age and level the athlete intends to tryout for.
- ▶ A bona fide effort must be given by the athlete at each tryout.
- ▶ Sometimes your home association does not offer A/AA level of play for your age group, or you simply want to give your player as many opportunities as possible to play at a higher level – if this is the case, you **MUST** follow the closest association matrix.

PLAYER MOVEMENT MATRIX



What This Means:

Athletes must go to the closest association offering the level of play.



Example:

If a Barrie player wants to tryout for U14A and Barrie and Newmarket are not offering U14A, they would check the Player Movement Matrix and see the next closest association.

Muskoka (not offering U14A), Richmond Hill (offering U14A), Markham-Stouffville (not offering), Sunderland (offering U14A), and Etobicoke (offering U14A).

The player may attend each of these tryouts but cannot skip any association offering U14A. In other words, they cannot skip Richmond Hill and go to Sunderland or Etobicoke.

PLAYER MOVEMENT MATRIX



- ▶ **Audrey lives in Barrie. This year she played U14A for Richmond Hill. She wants to tryout for U16A for the 2025-2026 season, what must she consider?**

Is Barrie offering U16A? If yes, Audrey must tryout in Barrie (Home comes before Current and Closest)

- ▶ **Audrey finds out that Barrie is not offering U16A, but Newmarket and Richmond Hill are. Newmarket is her closest association, and Richmond Hill is her current association, so what does she have to do?**

Current comes before Closest, so Audrey MUST attend tryouts in Richmond Hill and can choose to attend tryouts in Newmarket.

PLAYER MOVEMENT MATRIX – example

HOST ASSOCIATIONS



SOUTHERN CLUBS

- Barrie
- Burlington
- Caledonia
- Cambridge
- Etobicoke
- Hamilton
- Markham-Stouffville
- Mississauga
- Newmarket
- Niagara Falls
- Paris
- Richmond Hill
- St. Catharines

Intent Form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/KX1uRTzkXJ>



CENTRAL CLUBS

- Ajax-Pickering
- Manvers
- Muskoka
- Oshawa
- Sunderland
- Whitby

Intent Form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/8wBSvV9KnM>