

Nova Central Ringette Association – Children’s Ringette Program

What age group/program should I register my player in for the upcoming ringette season?

The intention of the NCRA Children’s Ringette Program is to place players, of various skill levels, in an appropriate group of like-skilled players at the beginning of the season. This is to allow the players to develop throughout the ringette year at a rate appropriate to their own skill level. Each program group is a step to prepare players for the next level of development.

The NCRA Children’s Ringette Program is intended for ringette athletes who are 8 years old (as of December 31) and younger. Exceptions may be made, on a case by case basis, for older players who are entering the sport and just starting to develop their fundamental skating skills.

Children will develop their athletic skills at different rates...and that should be expected. Because of this, players may remain in the group that they were a part of in the previous season.

The following information is given to help you determine the group/program that you feel would be best to register your player in, based on your assessment of your player’s level of skill/development, in the upcoming ringette season. After initial registration, players may request to be moved to a different program group prior to the Association’s player registration cutoff date. However, this request will be subject to the size of the requested group that player would like to move to. Once the Association’s player registration cutoff date has passed, the team/group that your player is with will be the team that they will remain with for the ringette season.

Active Start

The Active Start group is aimed at players who are just beginning to learn their on-ice locomotion skills. This group will be on the ice once a week, focusing on the introduction of skating skills with some ring activities. Weekly half-ice practices will be shared with the FUNdamentals groups. The Active Start group will not participate in out-of-association games or tournaments. Game-like activities will be introduced during practices as the season progresses.

The Active Start group size is determined by the number of registered athletes with NCRA.

The Active Start group may include a small team budget for off-ice team building activities.

FUNDamentals 1 and 2

The FUNdamentals teams are intended for players with 1 to 4 years on-ice experience that have achieved the ability to fall and stand with ease, skate forward using both feet, turn in both directions, and stop. These groups are primarily focused on refining skating skills with introduction to ringette-specific skills and team play.

A skills assessment of all the players that register in FUNdamentals is completed at the beginning of the season. The two groups are then separated into their respected teams based on the data collected during the skills assessments. The players with the higher rankings in their assessments will be placed on the FUNdamentals 2 team.

The two FUNdamentals groups will participate in two half-ice practices/games a week. Games with other local associations teams will begin as the season progresses. The number of ice times may change on the occasional week (depending on tournament and game schedules), but most weeks will see two ice times.

Each FUNdamentals group will be run as a separate team with their own (parent-voted) budget. The team budget could include participation in local and out-of-province jamborees/tournaments, as well as other team event activities.

The FUNdamentals team sizes are determined by the number of registered athletes with NCRA.

U10 Teams

U10 teams are for players aged 8 and 9 (before December 31). A skills assessment of all the players that register in U10 is completed at the beginning of the season. Teams are then created with the intent of evenly balancing (skill-wise) each team based on the assessed skill data collected.

U10 teams usually are on the ice twice a week with a game and shared-ice practice, but may change on the occasional week. Full-ice Home and Away games are played against teams from the Harbour City, Halifax, and Berwick associations.

Each team is run separately with their own (parent-voted) budget. The team budget could include participation in local and out-of-province jamborees/tournaments, as well as other team event activities and added development.