

**CENTRAL REGION  
RINGETTE  
ASSOCIATION**

**OPERATING  
MANUAL**

**Revised August 2009**

# **CENTRAL REGION RINGETTE ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

(Memorandum of Association)

Revised: April 2009

Constitution adopted April 29, 1982

Incorporated October, 1976

## **Central Region Ringette Association**

### **Philosophy and Purpose of the Association**

The purpose of the Association is to promote, direct, and guide the growth of Ringette and its philosophy within the Central Region

To promote play within the basic philosophy of the sport so that the unique spirit of the game is fostered.

To promote physical activity for social fun and character development.

## **Central Region Ringette Association Constitution**

### **Name**

The name of the organization shall be the "Central Region Ringette Association", hereinafter called the "Association."

### **Objectives**

1. The basic objectives of the Association are:

A. To Foster and promote Ringette throughout the Central Region within the guidelines of Ringette Canada.

B. To promote and encourage co-operation and unity of purpose among groups conducting organized Ringette, thereby developing good SPORTSMANSHIP and citizenship through the playing of Ringette.

C. To protect mutual interest of the members.

D. To maintain and enforce a standard set of playing rules.

E. To serve as the official regulating and operating body of Ringette within the Central Region.

# **CENTRAL REGION RINGETTE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS**

## **1. AFFILIATIONS**

To co-operate with Regional, Provincial, and Nation Ringette and other sport governing bodies.

## **2. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership in the Association shall include three classes:
  - i) Active
  - ii) Associate
  - iii) Honorary
- B. ACTIVE membership shall be limited to duly approved organizations within Central Region. Each active membership in good standing shall be entitled to vote at any Special or General Meeting in conformity with By-law 8 (F). Membership may be extended to teams or clubs in a Region where no recognized local or regional association exists by a 2/3-majority vote of member associations.
- C. ASSOCIATE membership shall be open to all organizations or persons who desire to assist in the promotion of Ringette. Associate members shall not be entitled to vote at any Special or General Meeting.
- D. HONORARY membership shall be granted to those nominated by active members of the Association and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Honorary members shall not be entitled to vote at any Special or General Meeting.
- E. Applications for active and associate membership shall be submitted, in writing, to the Board for its approval and shall include a copy of their Constitution and a list of their officers.
- F. Any member may terminate membership by giving written notice to the Secretary of its intended resignation.
- G. The Association may terminate the membership of any member for sufficient reason by an extraordinary resolution approved by a two-thirds majority of member associations present entitled to vote at a Special or General Meeting duly called for that purpose.
- H. An active member shall be duly constituted so as to provide for organization consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Members.

## **3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors, consisting of a President and two representatives from each registered association shall administer the operation of the Association.

## **4. ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

- A. Board of Directors- The board acting within the Constitution and By-laws of the Association shall be responsible for drafting the Association's policies, for submission to the membership for approval, and for carrying them out.
- B. The Executive- Shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the association and shall act within the framework of the policies established by the Association. The executive shall have full authority to implement the policies of the Association, referring all matters, which would constitute departures from established practice of precedent, to the Association for prior approval. The Executive shall also carry out all other functions as provided in the by-laws.
- C. The Executive will consist of:
  - i) President
  - ii) Secretary
- D. The registered associations (clubs) with two votes per club shall elect the Executive.
- E. The Divisional Directors shall be:
  - 1) The members of the Executive
  - 2) Elected by Registered Associations' Representatives
  - 3) The Association shall elect up to seven (7) age division directors, one (1) statistician, one (1) Director of Officials and one (1) Rescheduler at the September Central Region Ringette Meeting.
- F. Terms of Office:
  - 1) The term of office of the members of the executive shall be for 1 year.
  - 2) Association Representatives shall serve a term of two (2) years. For continuity purposes, the clubs are to replace one (1) association representative each year

#### G. Vacancies

- 1) In the event of the position of President becoming vacant during a current term, then the Secretary shall act as President.
- 2) In the event of the position of the Secretary becoming vacant, the board of Directors shall have the power to appoint a successor from amongst the Board of Directors.
- 3) In the event of a director's position becoming vacant, the Executive may appoint a director from the membership.
- 4) A person appointed to the Board of Directors or Executive to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the balance of the un-expired term of the vacating officer.

#### 5. ELECTION AND APPOINTED OF OFFICERS

- A. The Executive- The members of the executive shall be elected by secret ballot at the A.G.M. by members in good standing.
- B. The Divisional Directors- The Association Representatives at the C.R.R.A. meeting in September will elect Divisional Directors.
- C. The Board of Directors may appoint any other officer it deems advisable in the interest of the Association.

#### 6. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION

- A. Nominating Committee- A nominating committee, consisting of three members, excluding the President.
- B. Nominations- The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of candidates. This slate shall only composite the names of members from clubs in good standing, who have given their consent to accept the offices if they are elected.
- C. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at the annual general meeting at which elections are due to be held, any member in good standing may nominate members from the floor, providing the nominee is in attendance.
- D. Persons nominated for election, if not present at the Annual Meeting. must in writing signify their willingness to stand for election, if nominated, in absentia.

#### 7. ELECTIONS

- A. The election of the Executive shall take place annually during the month of April, with an advance notice to the membership in March.
- B. Where there is only one candidate nominated to any one position, that nominee will be considered the successful candidate by acclamation.
- C. Elections will be under the supervision of the chairman of the nominating committee. His/her committee will also act as scrutinizers. After the ballots have been counted, the chairman will declare the names of those who have been elected.
- D. All positions elected by secret ballot, position by position, beginning with the office of the President.

#### 8. MEETINGS

##### A. Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly at the discretion of the President at a time and place suitable to the Board.
2. A meeting of the Board can also be convened at any other time fixed by the Board at a regular meeting, or any time fixed by the President.
3. A minimum of seven (7) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at Board Meetings.

##### A. Executive- A meeting of the Executive can be convened at any time fixed by the Executive at a previous meeting or at the call of the President.

##### B. Annual General Meeting

- a. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Association, the date and site to be determined by the Board of Directors.
- b. The Annual General Meeting must be held prior to April 30<sup>th</sup> of the present playing year and is open to the public.
- c. A quorum at the Annual general Meeting shall consist of two-thirds or 66% percent of the Registered Member Associations.

- d. The President shall be the Chairperson
- e. Agenda for the Annual General Meeting
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call- identification of vote delegates
  - c. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
  - d. Business arising from minutes
  - e. Reports:
    - i) President
    - ii) U 9 (Bunny) Director
    - iii) U 10 (Novice) Director
    - iv) U 12 (Petite) Director
    - v) U 14 (Tween) Director
    - vi) U 16 (Junior) Director
    - vii) U 19 (Belle) Director
    - viii) + 18 Director
    - ix) Statistician
  - f. Motions
  - g. Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws
  - h. Election of Officers
  - i. New Business
  - j. Adjournment

- C. General Meeting - General meetings of the Association may be called by the President with the consent of the Board, or shall be called by him/her upon receipt of a written request signed by no less than 40 % of the members, specifying the purpose of the proposed meeting. No more than two general meetings shall be held in addition to the AGM per year.
- D. Notice of Annual or Special General Meeting A notice of each such meeting specifying the place, day, and hour and an agenda of business to be transacted shall be distributed through the mail at least 14 days prior to the date for such meeting.

E. VOTING

1. Each member club in good standing shall have two (2) votes. Each association must have a delegate for each of its votes present at Central League AGMs and /or Central League Director meetings.
2. Associations have their voting rights revoked until such time that they have a team participating in Central League play.
3. No proxy votes will be accepted.
4. Majority vote shall determine each question except where two-thirds majority is required.
5. In case of a tie - motion shall be defeated.
6. Members of the general public in attendance may enter into debate but shall not be permitted to propose, second or vote on any motion.

- F. All Meetings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order

**9. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

A) THE PRESIDENT

1. Shall preside at all meeting of the Association, of the Board and of the Executive
2. Shall be entitled to vote only at Executive and Board meetings to break a tie.
3. Shall be an elected member of the Executive.
4. Shall be ex-officio member of all committees of the Association except the Nominating Committee.
5. Shall be a signing officer.
6. Shall have general supervision over the responsibility for all activities in the Association.
7. Shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall undertake all duties incident to higher office, although he/she may delegate specific duties.
8. Shall hold office for a term of one year.
9. Shall prepare an annual report of the activities of the Association to be presented at the AGM.

B) THE DIVISIONAL DIRECTORS

1. Shall be responsible for the organization and administration of all Ringette activities under the CRRA jurisdiction in his/her age group.

2. Shall assist in all matters concerned with the conduct of their age group division.
3. Shall prepare an annual report of the activities in his/her age group division for presentation at the AGM.
4. Shall be regional spokesperson for the age group division to CRRA
5. Shall assist the coach in her/his age group division for the classifying of teams in respective "A" or "B" divisions, if applicable, during preseason and seasonal play up to and including December 31<sup>st</sup>.
6. Shall perform other duties assigned to them by the President subject to approval of the Board.

**C) THE SECRETARY**

1. Shall keep minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association, of the Board of Directors and of the Executive.
2. Shall keep all records and correspondence.
3. Shall be responsible for filing all reports and other documents required to be filled out by the Association.
4. Shall notify members of their acceptance into membership.
5. Shall insure that only legitimate voting members in conformity with by-law 8-(f) vote at the Association meeting.
6. Shall perform other routine work pertaining to the business of the Association.

**D) DIRECTOR OF OFFICIALS:**

1. Shall be elected by the members in good standing at the CRRA meeting in September.
2. Shall be the liaison with coaches and officials to foster a respectful working relationship with all on and off ice participants at Central League games.
3. Shall perform other duties assigned to them by the President subject to approval of the Board.

**E) RESCHEDULER:**

1. Shall be elected by the members in good standing at the CRRA meeting in September.
2. Shall be responsible to assist in the rescheduling of those make-up games that become difficult to reschedule by individual associations.
3. Each Associations' Ice Coordinator would advise this individual of unplayed games or games scheduled for the future that will require rescheduling assistance. Of note: The team/association responsible for rescheduling of a particular game will be responsible for Referee & Ice Costs. The Reason for rescheduling would have to meet Central Approval

**10. STANDING COMMITTEE FOR DISCIPLINE**

The Committee shall be comprised of the President, the Referee In Chief and the Director of the age class involved from Central provided there is no conflict of interest.

**11. FAIR PLAY POLICY**

Central Ringette League shall abide by the Fair Play Policy promoted by Ringette Nova Scotia.

**12. RULES**

All rules as adopted by CRRA, RNS and Ringette Canada shall be followed in all Central League play.

**13. INTERPRETATION**

In all cases where questions arise concerning the bylaws, policies, or rules, the final authority will be the Board of Directors.

**14. AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended at the AGM of the Association by two-thirds or 66% vote, provided that notice of the proposed amendment is given to the membership at least fourteen (14) days prior to the AGM.

# CENTRAL REGION RINGETTE ASSOCIATION POLICY MANUAL

## 1. AGE GROUPINGS OF PLAYERS REGISTERED WITH CRRA:

A. ALL AGE GROUPS ARE AS OF DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup> OF THE CURRENT PLAYING SEASON.

- (1) U 9 (Bunnies)
- (2) U 10 (Novice)
- (3) U 12 (Petite)
- (4) U 14 (Tween)
- (5) U 16 (Junior)
- (6) U 19 (Belle)
- (7) + 18 (Open)

### B. AGE GROUPING AND LEAGUE PLAY:

(1) All players must register and play in their age groupings as listed in "A" above. Exception being Rule B (3) and (4) below

(2) Players who do NOT abide by ruling in B (1) shall be suspended from league play until they conform to the ruling.

(3) Member Association that do NOT have enough players in one or more age group(s), must request through CRRA Board of Directors to move players up (except Belles) one age group only. Belle age players must conform to RNS ruling on moving to Debs age group.

(4) A Player with no Ringette Experience may play down one level, if the player and their home association wishes, provided that the player is assessed by two (2) certified level 1 coaches, of different associations of the level the player wishes to move to. It is the home association's responsibility to set up the assessment. If the coaches recommend the level change it will be allowed. If the coaches do not recommend the level change the player must stay their age level. The coaches must agree. This assessment must be done within 4 weeks of the player registering with their home association.

**(5) A Player who has played before will be able to play down a level after due evaluation by qualified coaches from the home association have been completed. Final placement to be ratified by the Central Board.**

## 2. MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

### MEMBER

### BOUNDARIES

*Of Note: these are the old HRM District numbers some numbers may have changed*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Bedford   | District 21  |
| 2. Cole Harbour  | District 4 and part of 5   |
| 3. Dartmouth   | Districts 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 (or Old Dartmouth City)  |
| 4. Eastern Shore   | Districts 1 & 3  |
| 5. Sackville   | Districts 19 & 20  |
| 6. Shannon:  |  |
| (1) all regular community members of Shannon Heights Community |  |
| (2) associate members NOT to exceed 40% of the team            |  |
| 7. Halifax/ St. Margaret's                                     | Districts 22 & 23 (old Hfx City limits to Hfx County line in Hubbards, including Highway 333, Hammonds Plains Road to old Bedford Town Limits & Lucasville Road to Timber Trails Trailer Park) |
| 8. Halifax/ Chebucto   | Districts 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18  |
| 9. Berwick   |  |
| 10. Canning  |  |

Of Note:

Players living in any HRM Districts (i.e. District #2) not listed above are covered in Boundary Rule # 2.

### **3. DEFINITIONS:**

1. Member Associations: Those associations that are registered with CRRA and fall within the boundaries of CRRA as defined by CRRA's constitution
2. Home Association: The member association within whose boundaries a player's primary residence is located.
3. Primary Residence: The home of the parents / guardian of registered player(s).Residences of relatives or friends are NOT considered a Primary residence.
4. New Players: Player(s) who have never registered with a CRRA member association, or who have registered with a CRRA member association previously, but absent for one or more playing seasons. Except by injury.
5. Play Season: From the start of the first CRRA game to the last CRRA game or Provincial tournament game which ever comes last.

### **4. BOUNDARY RULES: (Adopted May 1988 and revised April 2003)**

#### **RULE # 1:**

All players whose primary residence is within the boundaries of a member association must register with their home association.

#### **RULE # 2:**

All new players whose residence is outside the boundaries of any CRRA member association may register with the association of their choice. Once that selection is made they must continue to register with that association. Exception being Rules # 5 & 10.

#### **RULE #3:**

All players changing primary residence from one member association boundaries to another member association boundaries:

A. Prior to the start of a season, must register with their new home association.

B. During the current season:

(1) May opt to play out the rest of the current season with their home association; and must register with their new home association for upcoming seasons.

OR (2) Play out the rest of the current season with their new home association.

C. Associations gaining players(s) under Rule #5 B (2) must submit a release forms to RNS and CRRA.

#### **RULE # 4:**

All players whose primary residence changes from a Member Association boundaries to outside the boundaries of any CRRA member association may register with the association of their choice but once that choice is made must remain with that association. Exception being Rules # 7 & 10

#### **RULE # 5:**

All players changing primary residence outside the boundaries of any CRRA member association and are registered with a member association; may request to CRRA for a change to a new member association of their choice. Once that choice is made players(s) must remain with that association.

#### **RULE # 6:**

All players registering with a CRRA member association after an absence for one or more seasons shall be treated as a new player and are subjected to conditions as laid down in either Rules # 1 or 2. Exception being an injury to a player.

#### **RULE # 7:**

If at any time a new association is form, and players previously registered with other associations whose primary residence is within the boundaries of the new association may continue to play with their old association or join their new home association.

**RULE # 8:**

Member associations that cannot provide a team for player(s), may negotiate with another member association through CRRA Executive to provide a team for these player(s). This is on a season to season basis only.

**RULE # 9:**

Players who reside in another active RNS Region, which has established boundaries, may NOT play for Central Region Ringette Association teams or register with CRRA member association, without prior approval of CRRA Board of Directors.

**RULE # 10:**

Siblings of the players covered in Rules #7 are also to be included in Rules #7, so that members of the same family may play in the same association.

OF NOTE: These Rules do not affect players of +18 age, but the CRRA Executive if requested by any disputing member association shall resolve any dispute between member associations regarding + 18 players.

**PENALTIES**

CRRA Board of Directors will advise all member association executives of any player, coach, or team of any rule infraction and the penalty to be served.

**1. PLAYERS;**

- a. Players must play for the association in accordance with the boundary rules that meet their condition.
- b. Player(s) who do NOT abide by the boundary rules shall be suspended until they comply to the rules.

**2. COACHES:****a. FIRST OFFENCE:**

Coaches who use a suspended player after being advised by their executive, shall be suspended for 4 league games.

**b. SECOND OFFENCE:**

Suspended for remainder of season.

**3. TEAMS:**

a. Any team using suspended players(s) or suspended coaches after being informed, shall be suspended from CRRA League play until compliance.

b. Any team knowingly playing a suspended team shall be suspended for four league games. League games missed while under suspension shall be considered as forfeited games.

**4. MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS:**

Member Associations Executives who do NOT enforce the penalties handed down to players, coaches and teams, shall have their association suspended from league play until compliance. League games missed while under suspension shall be considered as forfeited games.

Compliance to these Rules and Penalties are binding to all parties and CRRA Board of Directors will make all final decisions.

## **5. RELEASE GUIDELINES (Adopted August 2008)**

### **Statement of Principle**

Releases shall be granted by balancing the best interests of the player and the sport, with a view to keeping players in the sport and maintaining the sustainability of member Associations.

### **Player request (release requests must come from players)**

A release may be requested by a player to play in a member association (the receiving association) other than the player's home association if such request is made prior to October 15 of that season.

Once released a player is considered released only for that season and must return to their home association for the next season.

### **Right to refuse:**

An association may refuse a release request for any reason.

### **Releases approved by Central (all releases must be approved by Central as a release affects all associations)**

An Association may approve a release. All releases approved by an Association must be tabled and approved by the Central Board at the next Central Board meeting by a majority of votes.

### **Appeal (players should have an avenue for appeal)**

If an association refuses to release a player, the player may appeal the decision in writing to the Central Board. The appeal request must contain the player's name, the home association, the receiving association and the reason for the release request. The appeal shall be tabled at the next Central board meeting for consideration and motion.

When considering an appeal by a player, the Board shall consider the following as grounds for allowing an appeal:

- Irreconcilable differences between the player and the association which could include but not limited to
  - Coach player differences which cannot be resolved
- Family and or living circumstances deemed appropriate by the Board which could include but not limited to
  - Legal separation where a player may have more than a single residence
- The inability of the home association to provide a team at that age level

A decision to grant the appeal must receive approval of a majority of the votes at a Board meeting.

### **Registration fees (to avoid association shopping)**

1. Registration fees shall be paid, at the greater of the home or receiving association's rate. If the receiving associations' rates are lower, the home association will receive the difference.
- 2. In case of mandatory release where there is no team in the home association the player being released pays only the receiving association fee.**

### **Mandatory release**

Where a member association cannot register a team at a particular age level for a season by October 1 of that season the association shall release the player or players at that age level unless one of the following conditions are met:

- subject to the Association's policy that player or those players have agreed to play at the next age level
- subject to the Association's policy, a sufficient number of players from the next youngest age level have agreed to play at that age level

Where an association cannot register a team at a particular age level, released players may, subject to the approval of Central, apply to play in another association.

Players released by an Association for reason of no team at that age level shall return to their Home association for the next season.

When considering such requests, the Central Board shall consider the following:

- The desire of the player
- The need and sustainability of other associations
- The ability to receive and permission of the receiving association

### **Central decisions final**

All decisions made at a Central Board meeting shall be binding.

# CENTRAL RINGETTE ASSOCIATION

## Playing Rules & Regulations (Rev. 2009)

1. Central League play will begin the weekend following the Thanksgiving holiday and continue until and including the last weekend of February. All make-up games must be played before the Tuesday following the first weekend of March in order to be included in the Final Central League Standings.
2. The first coaches and directors meeting will be held the week before or immediately following the Thanksgiving weekend. Attendance of the coaches and directors meeting is essential. Should a coach (or director) be unable to attend, it is up to him/her to select a representative for this meeting. The directors are to ensure that all coaches receive a copy of the playing rules at this meeting.
3. The second coaches and directors meeting will be held four (4) weeks after the first coaches and directors meeting. It will be held in a venue that would enable each division to meet separately to review the playing rules, the games played thus far and to become familiar with the director and the other coaches in their division in the Central League. Attendance at this meeting is also compulsory.
4. The coaches of each team must present a team list to the directors no later than the second coaches and directors meeting. This list must include: Name, street address, birth date and Jersey number. Once a player is registered with Central Ringette at this time that player cannot play below the level they are registered in.
5. Players can register anytime during the playing season, Central boundaries and ages groupings will apply.
6. One (1) hour of ice time per week will be given for league games for every two (2) teams in Central Ringette. Provincial and Select teams will give one (1) hour of ice time per week per team. Games played against these Provincial and Select teams are classed as Exhibition and are in addition to the total amount of games played by the teams in the division these teams are playing in.
7. An association with two teams in the same playing level in an age Division (e.g. two (2) U12 (Petite) teams) must ensure that both teams are equally balanced and cannot draw from each other to complete their roster. **OF NOTE:** Associations with 2 or more U10 (novice) teams are allowed to draw from one another for league games only, should the need arise. A coach may draw players to a maximum of (3) players to fill a registered team roster or to a maximum of (11) players. Once a player has been drawn four (4) times, that player is no longer eligible to be drawn again that season.
8. Playing time in Central league play will be two seventeen (17) minutes stopped time periods.
9. Each association will appoint a representative to collect all home game sheets for each division and e-mail the stats to the statistician on a weekly basis (Sundays) and then forward these game sheets to the Central Rep. If a game has been cancelled this representative is to also advise the statistician that the game was not played giving the reason why and which team cancelled. Divisional directors must be notified of a cancelled or forfeited game and they must be included in all correspondence regarding the attempts to make up the game. The Central Rep will then bring these game sheets to the Directors of their division at the monthly meeting.
10. The Home Head Coach must ensure the following information is clearly printed on the score sheet:
  - a. Type of game (e.g. League, Exhibition, Make-up)
  - b. Division and game number (e.g. Novice = N001)
  - c. Date of scheduled game and if game was rescheduled both dates must be indicated
11. **A coach may bring up players from a lower level only** to fill a team roster to a maximum of eleven (11) players **with no more than 2 players from more than 1 level down**. This is waived in the case of a goaltender in **all divisions** in order for teams to be able to draw up a goaltender from a lower level if they already have eleven (11) or more regular players available. This move is to be made only with the approval of the coach of the team from which the player is being drawn. Once a player has been drawn up three times after December 31, the player is no long eligible to be drawn up again that season. Names must be neatly printed on the game sheet. Coaches must identify on the score sheet which players have been brought up from a lower age category by placing (AP) by the player name and number and placing the completed label in the bottom right hand corner of the game sheet (white and yellow cope). Goaltender(s) must be marked with (G) or (AG) and Captains/Assistant Captains must be marked with C / AC. The home team coach as lead with visiting coach must scratch

player's names off game sheet if they did not play at completion of game and prior to submission to record keepers if alternate players are called up. **OF NOTE** In Divisions where associations have combined: to ice a team these teams are able to draw from the affiliated associations. **With Central's approval an association who does not have a Belle team can be considered as an affiliated association to the team or teams they released players.**

12. Any canceled or forfeited games will be recorded at a 3-0 loss to the team canceling or forfeiting. Once the game has been played, the score will be amended at that time. All teams must make reasonable effort to play their games as scheduled. It is considered a forfeit when for example (but not limited to):
  - A. A team fails to show up at the scheduled time to play a game (no show). Some exceptions may apply, at the discretion of the Divisional Director (e.g. weather conditions, communication problems)
  - B. A team who cancels a game with no intention of rescheduling
  - C. A team does not allow for rescheduling of a game when reasonable attempts are made by the other team to reschedule.
  - D. A team uses an illegal player or goaltender.Games will only be permitted to be cancelled/rescheduled for the following reasons:
  - a. loss of ice
  - b. inclement weather
  - c. participation in tournament
  - d. unable to secure officials
  - e. Consideration for games to be cancelled/rescheduled for any other reason will be considered if a request is put forth to Central by the cancelling team's ExecutiveGames cancelled for reasons other than those listed above will result in automatic default by the cancelling team. The cancelling team will be held responsible for any related costs (ice/officials) should proper notification (within 48 hours) of the cancellation not be given.
13. The team responsible for the cancellation will be responsible for rescheduling the cancelled game. This includes cost of ice, scheduling and cost of all officials. The team responsible for the cancellation must give the other team a minimum of six (6) nights advance notice of the rescheduled date. In the event that a Metro area team cancels out on a Berwick home game, the Berwick team will find the ice time to reschedule the game in Berwick. The Berwick Association will cover the cost of the ice while the team that cancelled will be responsible for the cost of the officials and is expected to bring the payment with them to the rescheduled game. **OF NOTE:** Though the ultimate responsibility for rescheduling a cancelled game belongs to the team responsible for the cancellation, Central Ringette expects both teams to cooperate and work together in rescheduling the game so the game can be decided on the ice by both teams. A team who does not allow for rescheduling of a game when three (3) reasonable attempts are made by the other will assume the responsibility for rescheduling. Divisional Director will be notified for resolution assistance.
14. Games may be rescheduled to accommodate a team attending a tournament provided that the team responsible for the cancellation reschedules the game for another date, preferably in advance of the originally scheduled game date. If a game is not played as originally scheduled because of a team attending a tournament and if the team does not reschedule that game for another time before the end of regular league play, then that game will be treated as a forfeit in favor of the other team.
15. Recognizing that some scheduled games may not be completed due to circumstances beyond either team's control, teams will be awarded one point each (tie) if rescheduling that game is deemed impossible. The score recorded for that game shall be 3-3. Central Ringette expects both teams to cooperate and work together in rescheduling the game so that the game can be decided on the ice by the teams if at all possible. For Example (but not limited to):
  - a. inclement weather
  - b. Referee no-shows
  - c. Power/equipment failure
  - d. Communication problems
16. In the event that there is insufficient ice time to complete a game of regulation length, the following procedure will apply: When the time reaches five (5) minutes left on the permit. At the first stoppage of play, the clock will be re-set to two (2) minutes and the remainder of the game will be completed with

stop time. The clock will not be re-set for more than the time remaining on the permit. Penalties will be fully served.

17. During Central League games, the scoreboard should show no more than a seven (7) goal differential at any given time.
18. Central Ringette requires a female staff person to be on the bench with each team at all playing levels.
19. Central Ringette adheres to Ringette Canada rules regarding protective equipment and goaltender equipment.
20. Central Ringette will adopt the same penalty minutes for infractions as per Ringette Canada.
21. Any player receiving a match penalty will automatically miss the next scheduled game pending a ruling on their status regarding further play from Ringette Nova Scotia.
22. Any coaching staff member ejected from a game, either as a result of a straight ejection or as a result of a Misconduct penalty, shall carry an automatic game suspension from the next game. A second ejection to be reviewed by a Central League disciplinary committee for further disciplinary action.
23. All coaches, assistant coaches, and any on ice help must wear a helmet at all times while on the ice during practices.
24. Games are to begin after the 3-minute warm-up (included team cheers/handshakes, etc.) or team will receive a delay of game penalty.
25. Bunny teams will play one (1) full game per month.
26. Associations are to purchase their own set of shot clocks for Central league play.
27. Shot clocks will be used at all league games starting at the Petite Level.
28. Central League banners and any other items will be awarded at a post game situation only during Provincial Tournaments.

## Central Tiering Structure

All Central By-Laws, Central Boundary Rules and Central Rules & Regulations will apply plus the following Guidelines:

1. The Structure will be as follows: "B" and "C" in the **U14 Division and above if division numbers permit**. The Central Board will assist the Member Associations in determining what playing levels they should have in each division by taking the following into consideration:
  - 1.) Number of players they have registered in that age division
  - 2.) Number of those players who were on an A team the season before
  - 3.) Number of those players who were on a Provincial team the season before
  - 4.) Number of those players who are new to Ringette
2. All associations with enough players to form two or more teams should attempt to place teams in appropriate tiered levels.
3. If an association has two or more teams in one age division all can be registered in either "B" or "C" and must be equally balanced.
4. If Associations only have enough players to form one team they must self declare either "B" or "C".
5. Associations may choose to work together and combine their players in order for their players to have an appropriate team to play on. **Refer to item #9.**
6. Each association will determine their own policy for player selection.
7. After 1<sup>st</sup> six weeks of play team movement may be required after evaluating all games played. The Central Board designate will meet with respective coaches and Association representatives to discuss the need for any team movement. Of Note: Further team movement may be required but must be done by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
8. The Central Board has the authority to over-ride an Associations decision regarding placement of team. Any and all appeals must be submitted to the Central Pres in time for the December Central Meeting.

9. **Player Movement: All current Central Boundary Rules apply.** Any and all player movement between levels and Associations must be approved by Central.
10. Player movement within an association may occur up until the December Central Meeting and must be approved by the Central Board.

## Central Differentiated-Play Structure

All Central By-Laws, Central Boundary Rules and Central Rules & Regulations will apply plus the following Guidelines:

**The teams will be scheduled to play in rotations of 9 - 8 games respectively for a 17 game season. In the U12** division that has 10 or more teams will consist of two loops (Red and Green for illustrative purposes). Based on standings teams will only be scheduled to play other teams that are also assigned to their loop. Following are the operating principles:

- A. Competitive scheduling will only apply to **the U12 division** with **10** or more Central League teams registered at a playing level. This count will not include any teams that participate in league play as part of provincial or development programs.
- B. All associations will enter balanced teams. This applies for teams that will fall under competitive scheduling and those that are scheduled outside this program - ( i.e. divisions with fewer than **10** teams)
- C. **If needed teams will be initially seeded in the competitive scheduled format by the following criteria:**
  1. **Based on combining associations novice & petite team's performance for the past season. (average standing)**
  2. Approved by a sub committee that will have one appointed representative from each association. This one sub committee will be accountable for all divisional levels that qualify for Competitive scheduling. In the case of the U14 division, wherein some associations did not have a U 14 team last season, the final seeding will be determined by the sub committee.
  3. **Tie Breaking formula to be added.** This will include a calculation to help decide between two teams having different records (ex. 4-1 vs 5-1)
- D. Divisional play will be established such that teams will be participating in a two loop system. (Red Loop and Green Loop for illustration purposes). At all times each loop will schedule if possible 50% of the divisional teams. In a odd numbered divisions of teams (11, 13 or more) the teams **might** be assigned as follows:

Registered Divisional Teams	Red Loop	Green Loop
<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
11	5	6
12	6	6
13	6	7
14	7	7

- E. Play will commence as indicated in step 'C" above and be scheduled for the first round of league play (5 game schedule). In a division with 14 teams this will allow minimum each team to play all opponents.
- F. Teams will then be assigned to play the second round of the schedule based on the league standings. Teams (can be either 1 or 2 teams) will/should move from Red loop to Green, and Green loop to Red.
- G. This procedure will continue until the completion of league play. Existing 17 game schedule will have two allocations.
- H. Central league will recognize only one Divisional Championship for the Red loop with a banner.
- I. RNS Provincial play down format remains unchanged