



Women's Ringette Association of Calgary

## **OPERATING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**June 24, 2021**

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## **A. REGISTRATION**

1. It is the responsibility of each team to be registered with the Women's Ringette Association of Calgary ("WRAC") by the first game of the season each year.
2. Each player shall be required to pay an annual membership fee of four dollars (\$4.00) per player. No team shall be allowed to vote or participate in the WRAC league unless all fees are paid in full.
3. All players must be registered with WRAC and this is done via the RAMP online system. The RAMP on-line registration must be completed, before the team plays its first League game. Only players registered with RAMP are allowed to play.
4. Playing with a player who is not registered with RAMP, and insured through RAB (BFL Canada/AIG Insurance Company of Canada) Insurance is subject to a \$250.00 fine.
5. Players who are new to the league can be added during the season up until the final registration date (January 1).
6. Referee fees are paid out of team funds where applicable.
7. Each team is to post a bond of three hundred dollars (\$300) prior to the start of the WRAC League play. This is a performance bond to be used to resolve complaints including ice payments for cancelled games, for fines, infractions, and for a formal complaint. Payable annually upon registration with WRAC and balance refunded by end of May of that season. Teams have an option of rolling over their unused bond into the next registration year. Teams will be notified when they are incurring a charge towards their bond.
8. Once the bond is consumed, it must be re-established before the team can resume participation in the League. The bond is to remain with WRAC until withdrawal of a team or team (s) after completion of a full season.
9. All teams are responsible for their own finance, registrations and day to day operations, WRAC will not get involved or act as a mediator.

## **B. RINGETTE CANADA**

Rules of the Ringette CANADA Official Rules & Casebook (Current: 2019-2021) will be adhered to including any rules that are adopted by WRAC. Playing rules implemented will not contravene the Ringette Canada Rules, but in some cases could be more severe.

## **C. GAMES AND GAMESHEETS**

1. Game sheets must be scanned/photographed and emailed in by the HOME TEAM to appropriate email within 72 hours of game play.

2. All game sheets that require discipline review including – major penalties (any 4 minute penalties), game misconducts, or match penalties must be scanned/photographed and emailed by the violating team within 24 hours to the Discipline Committee. Please make sure the referees' write up of the incident on back of the white game sheet is included.

The violating team is responsible to email the game sheet within 24 hours of the game. All late game sheets that require discipline review are subject to a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fine.

Note: If both teams require discipline review the home team will scan/photograph and email in the game sheet.

3. All game sheets indicating a player or team official is serving a suspension are to be scanned/photographed and emailed, by the team with the suspension, after the next game(s) until fully served to the Discipline Committee. Failure to do so will result in a fifteen dollar (\$15) fine.

#### **D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOME TEAM**

1. Provide score sheet.
2. Provide two (2) rings in good condition.

#### **E. RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEAM UNIFORMS AND CHOICE OF ENDS**

1. It is ideal to carry two (2) sets of jerseys to prevent issues. Prior to start of game, teams can agree on best color choices based on what is available. It will be the responsibility of the Visiting Team to change their sweater if the colors of the competing teams' conflict.
2. The Home Team shall have the choice of ends to start the game. Teams shall alternate ends of the ice to start each period but neither team is permitted to change their player's bench.

#### **F. PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

1. Any WRAC Team player, team official, or manager that is dissatisfied with a decision or ruling of WRAC Discipline Committee, in whole or in part, made pursuant to the operating rules, has the right to appeal the decision to the WRAC Discipline committee within 48 hours of the initial notice of discipline. All appeals shall be initiated by notice of writing to the President and Vice President, and should include concise statements of the grounds for appeal. Supporting statements from the opposing team, opposing team official, and on-ice officials may be taken into consideration. Appellants shall be required to pay the \$100.00 appeal fee.

2. An appeal does not operate as a stay of decision, unless otherwise agreed by the WRAC appeal committee. The appeal will be reviewed and a decision made by the WRAC appeal committee within 48 hours after receiving the written protest and appeal fee. If the appeal is successful in its entirety, WRAC will reimburse the protesting team or player the appeal fee.

## **G. REFEREES**

1. Referees must be registered and certified by Ringette Canada.
2. All games must have a minimum of one (1) registered official.
3. All complaints regarding Referees must be in writing and submitted to the Referee Representative.

## **H. TEAM CONDUCT**

1. Profanity by players, team officials or league representatives will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate disciplinary action.
2. Every registered player shall be held strictly accountable to the WRAC Board for their conduct at all times. In particular, they are responsible for preventing disorderly conduct of themselves and their teammates before and after games or practices, on or off the ice and at any places in or about the rink.
3. Individuals, Teams or Team Supporters whose unsporting behavior causes the game to be brought into disrepute may cause the team or individual to be suspended from further play, further discipline by the League and they may face expulsion from the League at the discretion of the Discipline Committee. Unsportsmanlike (or unsporting) behavior occurs when the game is brought into disrepute by unexpected or unprecedented behavior that offends the spirit of the game and can be directed against opponents, colleagues, officials, spectators or facility staff.
4. Teams will be required to follow the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct will be outlined at the beginning of each season and the Team Managers will be required to have proof of all players signing it prior to the start of the season.
5. If the WRAC Board is of the opinion that a team is being assessed too many penalties of a serious nature, then the Team Manager or Player(s) or any combination thereof, are liable to suspension for failure to control their team/themselves.
6. The WRAC Board will not tolerate any abuse of any kind by a Player, or Manager of any league or game officials and such abuse will render that individual liable to suspension at the discretion of the WRAC Board.

When issues or concerns arise throughout the season, WRAC urges all players and teams to follow the following communication channel:

- First address your concerns to your team manager or representative.
- If the issue is not resolved please address the concern with the appropriate WRAC Board member.
- If you feel the issue is still not resolved please address the concern with the WRAC President.

## **I. LEAGUE PLAY**

1. While not required, it is recommended that teams have a Team Rep on the bench during games. Team Reps should make themselves known to the referee at the beginning of the game and marked as "C" on the game sheet.
2. All teams must provide a minimum of one hour ice time for league play.
3. All league games will consist of two (2) twenty (20) minute stop-time periods.
4. If there is more than two (2) minutes left in the game but there are only five (5), minutes or less left on the ice time, the referee shall instruct the timekeeper to drop the clock to two (2) minutes.
5. Each Team is allowed one (1) 30 second timeout per game. If there are less than 2 minutes left in the ice permit (Not time on the clock) no time-out will be allowed for either team.
6. At the conclusion of the game, all WRAC Teams will line up for the handshake. Removal of gloves is not mandatory.

## **J. CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS**

1. Cancellation due to weather conditions will be as per local R.C.M.P. or other recognized association road recommendations. This information is available via the Alberta Motor Association website or updated recorded messages for all major highways, etc. The AMA reports also include RCMP advisories for road closures and NO TRAVEL ADVISORY.  
Web: [www.ama.ab.ca](http://www.ama.ab.ca) Telephone:403-246-5853
2. Either team can Initiate the postponement of a game in the event that a Road Condition or Travel Advisory is issued due to poor weather conditions. This is very important as the referees must be cancelled.

In the event that games are cancelled due to bad weather/road conditions, the Home team will try to re-sell their ice or have a practice

## **K. RESCHEDULING OF GAMES**

1. Regardless of it being the home or visiting team, If the cancelled ice time cannot be re-sold, the cancelling team will pay the full ice cost. The cancelling team will also pay the referee costs, if the referees cannot be cancelled in time.
2. This does not apply to weather cancellations.

## **L. LATE FEES / FINES**

1. A fine of twenty five dollars (\$25), will be levied per month for all late fees, this includes all non-playing months. If team fees (including WRAC and Insurance fees) are not paid in full by October 15<sup>th</sup> of the season, that team will not be eligible to play.
2. A fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) will be levied for each WRAC special or emergency meeting where at least one (1) team delegate is not in attendance. This can be taken from the \$300 bond provided by that team.
3. A fine of two hundred dollars (\$200) will be levied for each WRAC AGM where at least one (1) team delegate is not in attendance. This can be taken from the \$300 bond provided by that team.

## **M. DISCLAIMER**

Any Bylaw and/or Regulation not specifically set out in these Operating Rules and Regulations or WRAC's Bylaws Document will be referred to Ringette Alberta and/or Ringette Bylaws & Regulations.

## **N. SUSPENSION GUIDELINES**

These guidelines are designed for dealing with infractions committed in the course of a game. This will ensure consistency as maintained by those empowered to administer discipline. The terms of suspensions listed herein are a minimum for each infraction. A player's past record is considered, and will influence additional penalties. Team officials will also be subject to similar discipline with the Discipline Committee having the jurisdiction to apply more severe penalties. The WRAC Executive may impose additional fines where not stipulated in the By-Laws or Suspension Guidelines. Any playing rules implemented must not contravene the RAB rulebook, with the following exceptions:

1. There will be no delay of game for a goalie change.
2. There is NO body contact allowed.
3. ALL suspensions, misconducts and/or affiliates must be marked on the scoresheet.

4. Players or team officials serving a suspension will not be allowed in, on or near the dressing room, players' bench, sitting in the stands or acting as an off-ice official before, during or after a game.

5. Minor Penalties

If a player is assessed ten (10) minutes in penalties in one (1) game including overtime, they will be ejected from that game. The ejected players remaining time shall be served by another player on their team.

6. MISCONDUCTS

a. In the case of a Game Misconduct at any point during the game refer to the Ringette Canada Rulebook.

b. If a team member receives a second (2nd) misconduct at any time throughout the current playing season, that team member will be automatically suspended for the next game and fined one hundred dollars (\$100) per game suspended. Any additional misconduct may result in further fines and/or suspensions to the player(s) and/or team management by the WRAC Executive.

## **O. WRAC SUBSTITUTE/AFFILIATE PLAYERS**

These guidelines are designed for teams playing under WRAC registration.

1. Substitution is not to be used to improve the caliber of a team; it is to be used to ensure teams have enough players to play.
2. Players who have been registered at the 'A' level or equivalent skill levels in hockey within the past five (5) years are not eligible to play within the WRAC league.
3. Players must be 18 years of age as of December 31st to register.
4. Male players are allowed to register with WRAC teams to play as a goal keeper only.
5. Sub players and goalies' names must be clearly noted on the game sheet and be a WRAC member.

## **P. WRAC MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS LIST**

The following are minimum suspensions that shall be imposed for infractions, which occur in all WRAC exhibition, league, and play-off games during the current playing season. Any suspensions assessed by WRAC shall be served only in league, play-off games or provincial games. Tournaments and exhibition games will not apply.

Infraction	Ringette Canada Rule #	Minimum Suspension from WRAC
Intent to Injure	18.1.a	2 games
Fighting	18.1.b	3 games
Spears, Butt Ends or Kicks at opponent	18.1.c	1 year
Checking from Behind	18.1.f	3 months (within the Oct-April season)
Hair pulling	15.1.f	1 game
Verbal abuse of Officials (ZERO TOLERANCE)	18.1.d	3 games
Threaten or attempt to strike an official	18.1.d.1	1 month (within the Oct-April season)
Intentionally touches, holds, or pushes an official	18.1.d.2	3 months (within the Oct-April season)
Intentionally strike, trip or body check an official	18.1.d.3	1 year

\*A COPY OF THE GAME SHEETS WITH INFRACTION INFORMATION ARE THE VIOLATING TEAMS' RESPONSIBILITY TO EMAIL TO THE WRAC BOARD.

### **Clarifications to the Minimum Suspensions List**

1. These are minimum suspensions for first time offenders. Additional suspensions will be imposed on repeat offenders and wherever conditions and circumstances warrant.
2. It is the responsibility of each team manager and/or coach to ensure their players sit out their appropriate suspensions. When in doubt as to the relevant suspension, contact the Discipline Committee.
3. If unable to contact the Discipline Committee, sit player(s) in question out until clarification can be obtained.
4. These suspensions are in addition to the game incurred.
5. All Referee reports will be forwarded to the Discipline Committee immediately.
6. All suspensions and fines will be issued by the Discipline committee.
7. **All Referees' decisions are final.**



## Q. WRAC FINE STRUCTURE

Infraction	Fine Amount
Game Cancellation less than 14 days	0
Game Cancellation less than 5 days	Ice Cost + Referee Cost (if not cancelled in time)
Home Team not sending in Gamesheet	\$25.00
Team Delegate missing WRAC meeting	\$100.00
Team Delegate missing WRAC AGM meeting	\$200.00
Misconducts – second infraction	\$100.00 per game