



NORTHWEST CALGARY RINGETTE • ESTABLISHED 1988

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Attention: U16 Parents/Guardians

Welcome to Calgary NorthWest Ringette Association's 2025/2026 Evaluations

On behalf of the Calgary NorthWest Ringette Association (NW Ringette), thank you for joining us for the 2025/2026 ringette season. NW Ringette's mission is to develop young athletes in their ringette and life skills through competition, teamwork and fair play, as well as foster their lifelong enjoyment of the sport.

The evaluation process is the most difficult task for any ringette association. There are a considerable number of factors that go into organizing and evaluating our athletes. Each year, the NW Ringette Board of Directors (the Board) reviews the previous season's evaluations process and offers changes and improvements to make the experience better.

We remain committed to our evaluations objective: *To provide an objective, accurate, and transparent evaluation and team formation process.* In keeping with this objective, we have made changes to the evaluations process that affect your athlete.

Below is a brief summary of the changes. A complete list of Evaluations 2025/26 season changes for all levels can be [found here](#).

2025/26 Evaluations Updates

- Evaluations flow charts have been updated. The first two scrimmages are no longer averaged. Each scrimmage is equally weighted.
- Skaters whose evaluation scores fall noticeably below the average may be considered for placement in a lower tier during the next round of scrimmages. Top ranked skaters in the top tiered game play evaluation may be removed from further game play evaluations after one (1) game play, if it is clear they will be placed in the highest tier. This change is designed to help evaluators evaluate players closer in skill level.
 - The amount of skaters removed from play is at the discretion of the Evaluations Committee, taking into account the number of skaters in the age group, evaluations scores, and where natural breaks in evaluations scores occur.
 - Skaters ranked at the bottom in the lowest tier of game play evaluation may be removed from further participation to help evaluators evaluate players closer in skill level. This will only occur if their scores and player pathway clearly support this placement. This decision will be made by the Evaluations Committee.
- During game play, both periods will consist of buzzed shifts. This allows for more equitable ice time for all players. Shot clocks will also be used.
- U16 players will be placed in their first scrimmage based on their historical placement on teams (using an algorithm based on player history).

Here is what else you can expect this year:

- Athletes must wear black ringette pants for evaluations and please note that helmets must be either black, red or white. Athletes must bring a plain white and plain black jersey (with no numbers on the arms) to wear under the corresponding pinny colour (an inside out jersey will work).
- All athletes are expected to participate in the evaluations.

→ We understand our athletes can have other commitments like jobs, social life and school at this age. However, not showing up to practices and team events is not fair to their teammates who are able to be fully committed. If this will be a concern this season, please let your evaluation coordinators know so the coaches are aware of this during the evaluations process. This will not impact evaluation scores or placement on the secured or unsecured list, but may help determine how many players per team are required to balance anticipated absences and can help coaches balance their teams.

- The first ice time is designed to get the athletes on the ice after being off all summer. This ice time will be similar to a regular practice ice time with goalies and is optional. It is listed as the preskate on your flowchart.
- The second ice time will be the first scrimmages (these are tiered skates) for all players. Those who do not wish to be placed on "A" will be removed from the team selection list prior to team formation; however, evaluation data from these skates will still be used by evaluators.
- Scrimmages will be evaluated by experienced people who do not have children in U16. Evaluators will be looking at ring control, defensive play, and game sense. [You can view the Evaluation Rubric here.](#)

Notifications

- Athletes will be notified by email of their upcoming ice time. It is critical that you regularly check and thoroughly read each email from the association. The emails contain critical information on the process and what is coming up next for your athlete. You will also be notified (through email) if your athlete's evaluations are complete.

Team Formation

- Once the evaluations process is complete, the teams will be formed. You will not be told where your athlete has finished by the Division coordinators. The next email you will receive will be from your head coach. Note: your first practice could happen very quickly after the team has been formed.

Evaluations Volunteers

- The sign-up for evaluation volunteers will be available shortly. You will receive an email from the volunteer coordinator with further instructions. These roles count toward your [NW Ringette volunteer requirement](#).

The evaluations process can be a stressful time for many players and their families. It is important to prepare your athlete in a way that does not put undue pressure on them. Please encourage them to do their best, but veer away from telling them they will make a certain level. If your player does not make the level you think they should have, remember how you handle the situation will directly impact how your child handles it.

Many volunteers are dedicating countless hours of their time to help make these two weeks go smoothly - we ask that you treat everyone with respect and patience as we work through any issues that may arise. With your help, we can ensure our athletes have an amazing experience this year playing ringette.

Please find attached the evaluation schedule for your division. Your player will not skate in all the ice times listed here. You will be notified of your specific ice times as soon as possible.

Feel free to approach any member of your Division Coordination team at any time with questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

U16 Division Coordinator

Calgary NorthWest Ringette Association
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