

Policy Number: NWR15

Most Responsible Board Member: Athlete Empowerment

Approval date: April 15, 2025

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Definitions

Refer to the Northwest Calgary Ringette Society (NWR) Bylaw definitions.

The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

Individuals means all categories of Membership within the NWR Bylaws, as well as all individuals engaged in activities with NWR, including but not limited to, athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, volunteers, managers, administrators, directors and officers.

Player Affiliations

The purpose of this policy is to outline the NWR player affiliation process and to provide the rights and set expectations for players, families, and coaches with regard to this process.

Affiliation is the process by which players at a lower tier or division are included on the roster of a team at a higher tier or division for the purpose of replacing absent players as required within the Ringette Alberta Affiliation policy. Affiliation is not a tool to be used to provide additional ice time for select players. Affiliation is not intended to be a supplemental developmental tool.

NWR adheres to the Ringette Alberta Affiliation Policy and where there may be any conflicts between that policy and this, the Ringette Alberta policy will take precedence.

Affiliation Opt-Out

1. At registration, players will have the opportunity to select whether they would like to be excluded from the affiliations process. By selecting this option, the player will not be affiliated to any teams during the season.

Assignment of Affiliate Players

2. Affiliate players will be assigned to the teams by Athlete Empowerment or designated NWR Board member(s) once team formation is complete.
 - a. Assignments must be reviewed and approved by the NWR President or designate.
 - b. Once approved, the affiliation lists are transferred to the Ringette Alberta Team Registration Form (TRF) and are provided to the team's Head Coach and Manager. At that time, the assignment of affiliates is considered final, and no further changes will be made.
3. Only players listed on the TRF may be used as affiliates with the exception of goaltenders which can be called upon as a replacement goaltender in specific circumstances. Refer to the Ringette Alberta Registration policy. All players in U10 to U19 who have not opted-out will be affiliated to a NWR team.
 - a. Some players may be requested to affiliate to a AA team (U12 to U19) or Open teams (U14 to U19). Unless this impacts the viability of NWR teams, these requests will be honored.
4. Full time goaltenders (FTG) can be affiliated to two (2) teams as per the Ringette Alberta Affiliation policy.
5. Affiliate players will be assigned in an equitable manner whenever possible, based on the player evaluation rankings.
 - a. Head coaches may request specific affiliate players, but assignment of those players is not guaranteed.
 - b. Whenever possible, siblings will be affiliated to their siblings' team.
 - c. When possible, affiliates assigned to a team will be from multiple teams to avoid availability conflicts.
6. Players and families may not make requests to be affiliated to a particular team or coach except in exceptional circumstances. These requests must be approved by the NWR Board.

Communication

7. The Head Coach or Manager are responsible for reaching out to their affiliates to inform them of their assignment, and to discuss any expectations for the upcoming season.
8. Teams are encouraged to have open and proactive communication with their affiliates, their families and the coaches of the player's full-time team.

Use of Affiliate Players

9. Coaches are expected to familiarize themselves with the Ringette Alberta applicable policies, in particular with the aspects of when affiliate players may be called upon.
 - a. As indicated in the policy, inappropriate use of affiliates may result in game results being overturned and suspensions for the Head Coach.
10. Teams are strongly encouraged to utilize their affiliates whenever possible, but keeping in mind the aforementioned rules.
11. While the opportunity to affiliate should be equitable, it is ultimately up to the coaches to decide if and when affiliates will be required, and which players will be called upon.
12. The needs of the player's full-time team always take precedence over those of their affiliate team. As a matter of courtesy, coaches of the player's affiliate team should confer with the coaches of their full-time team any time there is an intent to utilize a player as an affiliate.
13. Players and their families have the right to decline an opportunity to affiliate without any reasons given.

Cross-Reference

Ringette Alberta

- [Player Affiliation Policy](#)
- [Registration Policy](#)

Revision History

Date	Action Taken
April 2025	Policy Revised: Key changes: coaches draft replaced with affiliates being assigned, requests allowed, affiliates opt-out instead of opt-in during registration.

