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1. RULES DEVELOPMENT

1.1 Introduction

The Official Rules of Ringette™ are the copyright of Ringette Canada (Canada 1974) and are not allowed to be changed, reproduced or revised without the written consent of Ringette Canada. These rules are to be followed at all O.R.A. Sanctioned Events.

1.2 Rule Change Process

- 1.2.1 The official rules and casebook of Ringette Canada shall be published every two (2) years starting with September 2011.
- 1.2.2 Any stakeholder may submit a change suggestion for review.
- 1.2.3 May 1st – Beginning of rules change solicitation period.

September 1st – Deadline for submissions to be received by Ringette Canada office.
- 1.2.4 Ringette Canada circulates Playing Rule Submissions to the Provinces/Territorial Associations.
- 1.2.5 The Rules Development Committee reviews the playing Rule Submissions and votes on each proposed change. Two-thirds of the votes cast are required to support any changes.
- 1.2.6 Voting results and any amendments of the Rules Development Committee about Ringette Canada’s Playing Rule Submissions are forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval time permitting. The office submits approved voting results and amendments to Ringette Canada.
- 1.2.7 Ringette Canada circulates the National Rule Change Package to the Provincial/Territorial Associations.
- 1.2.8 The Rules Development Committee reviews the National Rule Change Package and votes on each proposed rule change. Two-thirds of the votes cast are required to support any changes.
- 1.2.9 Voting results and amendments of the Rules Development Committee about the National Rule Change Package are forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval. The Board Representative will vote on the suggested changes at the next Ringette Canada AGM.
- 1.2.10 Playing rules changes approved at the Ringette Canada AGM become effective in September of the next year.

1.3 Equipment Rule Change Process

- 1.3.1 Any stakeholder may submit changes to equipment rules.
- 1.3.2 September 1st deadline for submissions to be received by Ringette Canada office.
- 1.3.3 Ringette Canada circulates suggestions endorsed by its Technical Council to the Provincial/Territorial Associations for review.

- 1.3.4 The Rules Development Committee reviews the proposed equipment rule changes and votes on each proposal. Two-thirds of the votes cast are required to support any changes.
- 1.3.5 Voting results of the Rules Development Committee about equipment rule changes are forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval.
- 1.3.6 Provincial/Territorial Associations vote on proposed equipment rule changes at the next Ringette Canada AGM.
- 1.3.7 Equipment rule changes will be effective the season following their approval at the Ringette Canada A.G.M.

1.4 Rules Development Chair

The Chair of the Rules Development Committee (the Chair) will be the O.R.A. Vice President in charge of Rule Development Committee.

1.5 Responsibilities of the Chair

The Chair shall:

- 1.5.1 Communicate the rule change process to the members.
- 1.5.2 Recommend to the Board of Directors improvements to the Rules Development Programs of the O.R.A.
- 1.5.3 In consultation with the Program Chairs for Officiating and Coaching, select representatives for the Rules Development Committee.
- 1.5.4 Circulate to members of the Rules Development Committee the Playing Rule Change Submission received from Ringette Canada.
 - Conduct discussion and voting by the Rules Development Committee on these submissions.
- 1.5.5 Advise the Board of Directors of the results of voting by the Rules Development Committee for approval at a Board meeting time permitting.
- 1.5.6 Circulate to members of the Rules Development Committee the National Rule Change Package received from Ringette Canada.
 - Conduct discussion and voting by the Rules Development Committee members on the suggestion.
- 1.5.7 Advise the Board of Directors of the results of voting by the Rules Development Committee for approval at Board meeting.
- 1.5.8 For equipment rule change suggestions not included as part of the two-year Ringette Canada rule change process, the Chair shall perform duties analogous to those outlined for the two-year cycle with appropriate changes in deadlines.

**1.6 Rules
Development
Committee**

1.6.1 The positions set out below comprise the Rules Development Committee:

- The Chair or Designate
- The Chairs (2) of the Standing Committees for Officiating and Coaching or designate
- Athlete Director
- One (1) Official (minimum level 3)
- One (1) Coach (minimum CI Trained and MED certified)
- One (1) Player (minimum age 18 with Provincial level experience)
- O.R.A Technical Director (ex officio, non-voting)

1.6.2 The Official, Coach and Player will be selected and serve when playing rules and equipment rule changes are to be considered.

**1.7
Accommodation**

1.7.1 The Ontario Ringette Association will allow amendments to the playing rules to accommodate individuals with physical disabilities to wear alternative Gear or Protection that best suits their needs. To be considered on a case by case basis with approval by the Board of Directors.