

LRA Player Provincial Assessment Guidelines and Policies

Note: This document is to be utilized in conjunction with the WRRRA Tryout Process.

Introduction

A selection process occurs each year so that players can play on a Provincial team with players of similar age and ability. The selection process includes assessment of the players. These guidelines aim to provide parents, players, assessors/evaluators, and coaches with consistent, transparent information about the process. These guidelines and policies will be followed unless an exception is approved by a vote of the LRA Board of Directors. The tryout schedule will always be posted, in a timely manner, on the LRA website (www.londonringette.com) as soon as the WRRRA Tryout Process permits.

Purpose:

To clearly establish a protocol to follow, in order to determine acceptable team composition (and roster size), maximizing the number of home association players of appropriate skill level.

Scope:

This policy will be applicable to all Provincial divisions of the London Ringette Association. This policy does not apply to situations when the LRA, of its own accord, makes a decision to move players up or down age divisions, to balance team rosters. In such cases the LRA Board of Directors may, in its sole and absolute discretion, move players between teams and age divisions as it deems appropriate.

Eligibility:

All players need to have submitted an "Intent to Tryout Form" to Western Region Ringette Association website, prior to attending a tryout. All players must also register through RAMP Registrations and pay the applicable tryout fees to the LRA prior to the first ice time. Players who are not currently registered with the LRA may tryout, but must follow the WRRRA 'Closest Association Matrix' (*see Appendix 1*) and be released from all closer associations prior to accepting a roster spot with the LRA.

Underage and Out of Association Policy:

The following must be adhered for intent to tryout outside of current age group:

- Parents must apply in writing to the LRA President for permission to tryout for a provincial team in a higher age division a minimum of 1 week prior to the first tryout.
- Players must also tryout at their current age level.
- Players must be assessed/evaluated by a panel of at least 3 non-biased evaluators at all tryouts (at both age groups).
- If players are continuing on past the first round (ie. Have not been cut) all player evaluations will be reviewed by both coaches, the LRA president, and LRA vice president, prior to the final tryout.

Underage player movement should consider:

- Player's skills/abilities at their own age level. They should be exceptionally stronger than their peers.
- Individual team needs at both age groups should be assessed (how will the affected teams be impacted by player movement?).
- Organizational needs – maintaining/building/strengthening A/AA program. (i.e. will current age players, who are capable of playing that level, end up being cut to make room for the underage player.)
- Player's skills/abilities at the upper age level. Player should be in a position where they will be challenged and provided opportunity to build on skills/abilities (top 50% of roster).

For exceptional circumstances the tryout committee and coach will work together to come to a resolution.

Expectations:

All players are encouraged to play at the highest level they are comfortable with and capable of playing; however, players (and parents) need to approach the tryouts with realistic goals in mind. As a guideline, a realistic goal would be for a player to move up one skill level in the second year of an age group, and drop down one skill level when moving up an age group. Of course, skill development rates are different for each player and player numbers will vary each year and at each level. No spots on a team are guaranteed or pre-selected. Any solicitation for a tryout should be reported to LRA President.

Attendance:

Players are expected to attend every assessment session to which they are invited. The coach must be notified in advance if a player is unable to attend a session. Any players considering education relocation that want to play for a London team must attend a minimum of one tryout.

Tryout Policy for Injured, Ill or Absent Players:

For players that are injured, seriously ill or absent for all or part of the tryout process, the LRA President will handle them on a case by case basis. Players need to contact the coach and provide a doctor's note outlining their inability to complete the tryout. The outcome will be one of the following:

1. There is an obvious placement: The President immediately reserves a spot on the appropriate team based on history. Spot on team will be finalized with on-ice evaluation when player is able to return to play. Factors considered may include: performance in the tryout for the portion attended, input from previous coaches, and statistics from previous years.
2. There is no clear and obvious placement: The President rules that the player must tryout when healthy/available.

Size of Teams:

The number of players selected for any team will vary and will be dependent on the registration numbers at each level. Some team composition requirements are outlined in the WRRRA Tryout Policy and may be pre-determined if LRA deems necessary, prior to tryouts.

Assessment Cost:

Details of the tryout fees will be included on the tryout registration page on the LRA website, and will be found in RAMP Registrations.

Assessors/Evaluators:

The Coaching Coordinator will provide the Head Coach with a list of qualified assessors/evaluators to choose from. A minimum of three qualified assessors/evaluators and a goalie assessor/evaluator will be identified for each tryout session. Efforts are made to select the same assessors/evaluators for all sessions for consistency.

Qualified assessors/evaluators must be at least 18 years old and possess one of the following qualifications: CSI or CI trained or greater, Level 1 Ringette Referee or greater, player (18 years or older) not of the age category assessing. Assessors/evaluators may only participate if they have no family members on the ice.

Tryout Organization and Assessment Criteria:

Tryouts are held in descending order from most competitive level (AA) to least competitive level (following the process dates outlined in the WRRRA Tryout Process). Communication of results of tryouts will be provided through emails. Players will be evaluated using age and level specific criteria. Players are assessed on individual skills: skating, passing and stabbing and game skills: game sense, positional play and effectiveness in their position. There will usually be 4 tryout sessions with the first 2 guaranteed for all skaters. Tryout beyond session 2 will be by invitation only. Scrimmages and exhibition games may be incorporated in the tryout process. Note that after tryout 2, some players deemed to have

already made the team might be asked not to participate further so that evaluators can better assess the skills of the remaining players.

Assessment Process:

The assessors/evaluators will complete their assessment independently for all players in attendance using an evaluation sheet and rating scale. Completed evaluation sheets will be provided to the coach. The assessors/evaluators will use the summary and their own notes to rank players and provide comments to the coach. The coach will meet with assessors/evaluators to gain any further information helpful in the selection of players. The Head Coach completes their own evaluation using the assessment criteria.

Communication with Players:

Information on who is to return for further assessment beyond session 2 will be communicated by email. An ‘LRA Roster Spot Not Offered’ letter will be provided, including direction of options available to the player. The coach should be contacted if the parent or player is interested in more specific feedback. There are usually players who are ‘on the bubble’ - those of whom are difficult to decide who should make the team. Please keep in mind: IF your player is ‘on the bubble’ and makes the team, they will have the opportunity to play with some players who are more skilled, and be challenged to perform to the same level as the rest of the team. IF your player is ‘on the bubble’ and doesn’t make the team, they will have the opportunity to play with players of slightly less skill, but be a leader on the team.

‘Offer to Play’ letters will be provided by the Coach to players who have made the team. A response to the ‘Offer to Play’ letter is required within 48 hours to keep the player’s roster spot.

Questions:

All questions or concerns should be directed to the LRA President, Vice President, or the GLRL Representative from the LRA.

Updated March 2025

Appendix 1

	CHATHAM	DORCHESTER	ELORA-FERGUS	EXETER-SEAFORTH	FOREST	GODERICH	GUELPH	HANOVER	KITCHENER	LONDON	MITCHELL	OWEN SOUND	ST. THOMAS	ST. CLEMENTS	ST. MARYS	TILLSONBURG	WATERLOO	WELLINGTON NORTH	WOOLWICH
CHATHAM		125	248	169	92	172	219	258	203	107	163	305	108	201	146	147	204	238	223
DORCHESTER	125		118	85.4	85	114	100	160	86	18	67	206	35	87	36	39	88	127	111
ELORA-FERGUS	237	118		105	175	128	22	77	30	128	93	116	148	41	94	118	30	34	18
EXETER SEAFORTH	169	85.4	105		80.2	34.6	109	87	87	73	19	145	100	71	48	104	81	87	92
FOREST	92	85	175	80.2		83.2	170	167	145	67	94	217	87	136	83	122	145	167	159
GODERICH	172	114	128	34.6	83.2		147	85	117	99	54	132	125	95	82	138	114	107	116
GUELPH	219	100	22	109	170	147		99	25	113	91	135	132	48	89	100	28	53	29
HANOVER	258	160	77	86.6	167	85.1	99		107	152	91	59	181	91	120	170	101	53	85
KITCHENER	203	86.2	30.3	86.5	145	117	25	107		97	65	144	120	26	61	89	3	63	20
LONDON	107	18	128	73	67	98.7	113	152	97		61	207	26	94	42	58	106	134	116
MITCHELL	163	67	92.9	19.4	94.1	54	91	91	65	61		143	88	52	32	85	63	74	74
OWEN SOUND	305	206	116	145	217	132	135	59	144	207	143		233	132	165	214	142	83	125
ST. THOMAS	108	35.4	148	100	87.4	125	132	181	120	26	88	233		118	69	43	123	166	141
ST. CLEMENTS	201	87.2	41	70.7	136	95.1	48	91	26	94	52	132	118		55	88	22	52	23
ST. MARYS	146	36.2	94	47.5	82.6	81.8	89	120	61	42	32	165	69	55		65	64	92	78
TILLSONBURG	162	38.7	118	104	122	138	100	170	89	58	85	214	43	88	65		89	142	107
WATERLOO	204	88	30.2	81.2	145	114	28	101	3	106	63	142	123	22	64	89		60	18
WELLINGTON NORTH	238	127	34	87.4	167	107	53	53	63	134	74	83	166	52	92	142	60		42
WOOLWICH	223	111	18.2	92.3	159	117	31	85	21	128	74	125	143	23	76	107	18	42	

WRRR CLOSEST ASSOCIATION MATRIX