

Out of Association (OOA) Players

The City of Ottawa Ringette Association recognizes its responsibility to players residing in the City of Ottawa as being paramount. It also recognizes its responsibility to ensure all players, whether from home or outside Associations, can play at their skill level. Efforts are required to restrict OOA players at the younger years to ensure proper development within CORA and give CORA players the full benefits of the new Long Term Player Development principles.

That being said past experience has also shown that this needs to be balanced with the need to remain competitive and ensure proper roster sizes for all teams at the older ages to ensure that both Competitive and Recreational teams have the proper level of participation to ensure safe , fun and competitive teams at all levels.

Therefore a sliding scale of OOA participation is proposed for teams from U14 to U19

Revised CORA OOA Player Policy:

(1) Number of OOA Players (U14 and Above)

Any given CORA team at the levels of U14 and above will have no fewer than ten (10) CORA skaters, where registration numbers support it. Additional OOA players and/or goalies can be added as articulated below:

(U14 AA and A)

A maximum number of (2) OOA skaters and a maximum of one (1) OOA goalie* may be considered for these teams.

The OOA players must be considered to be among the top half of the final roster as listed on the TRF (not merely in the top of half of players trying out). Exception would be players from associations not fielding AA or A teams and then players from those associations could be considered if they are deemed of calibre.

(U16 & U19 AA)

A maximum number of (3) OOA skaters and a maximum of one (1) OOA goalie* may be considered for these teams.

The OOA players at this level must deemed of calibre.

(U16 & U19 A)

U16A a maximum number of (2) OOA skaters and a maximum of one (1) OOA goalie* may be considered for these teams.

The OOA players must be considered to be among the top half of the final roster as listed on the TRF (not merely in the top of half of players trying out).

Goalies*

General principle that a maximum of 1 additional OOA goalie at each level can be added under the following criteria:

- If a single CORA goalie is deemed to be of caliber for that level she must be provided with the initial spot.
- If an OOA goalie is deemed to be of calibre by the evaluator she may be added to the team where no other CORA goalies have attended the try-out.
- Where there is an OOA goalie competing with two or more CORA goalies, an OOA goalie may be selected where she is assessed to be better than the CORA goalies. If the OOA goalie is deemed to be as good as a CORA goalie but not better, a second CORA goalie will be added that is of calibre.
- 2 OOA goalies could only be added to a single team only when all evaluators in consultation with the executive committee members overseeing tryouts and the age convenor determine that no CORA goalie is at level and playing at that level would be considered detrimental to the goalies development.

All Other Levels (Bunny to U12)

The basic principle at all other levels would start from the perspective that all roster spots should be made available to CORA players. Exceptions to this principle to allow OOA players on teams will be decided by the Board on a case by case basis. CORA will accept OOAs where they cannot be accommodated by their home association (no team at the level of play or all teams are full) and where space is available on a CORA team. At U12 Provincial the player must be one of the top 6 players trying out and they should only be added as an additional roster spot expanding the team roster by 1.

Exceptions to the above OOA player or goalie limits can be made where in a particular age group where insufficient numbers of CORA players at the calibre of play attend tryouts. If a team of calibre level players could not be formed within these prescribed limits and additional OOA calibre level players are available special exemptions could be made for that team and that year alone. That decision would be made by the pre-identified Board executive members overseeing the tryouts, along with the convenor and designated coaches. This decision would be made with the input and advice of the assembled evaluators. The criteria to be considered for said decision is defined below. The decision and reasoning for the decision will be brought before the board at large at the first reasonable opportunity no later than the next monthly meeting.

(2) Returning OOA Players

For purposes of tryouts, all OOA players who played for CORA in the previous season will be treated as returning CORA players.

Once players have played for CORA for three consecutive seasons they become permanent CORA players and will be subject to the same policies as other CORA players.

(3) Case by Case Exceptions/Joint-Teams

If a deviation from the policy should be considered on a given team for players or goalies, a motion can be made for consideration on a case by case basis, with strong consideration being given to carrying a larger roster to ensure that CORA players are not being excluded inappropriately.

- The following factors should be considered on such a motion:
- The number and skill level of CORA players trying out for that team
- The number of players in that division/age group across both Competitive and Recreational teams
- The impact on the CORA player who would otherwise have been on that team
- Whether the OOA player can play at the same level in their home Association
- Level of play available in other associations for the OOA player

Underage Players

The City of Ottawa Ringette Association fully endorses players participating in their proper age groups. In exceptional circumstances movement will be considered on a case by case basis. Any player wishing to play above their age group must formally request permission from the Association. All requests will be reviewed by the Association on an individual basis. Players who request permission to play in a higher age group must be evaluated by association representatives as being of exceptional playing ability.

Other criteria that must be considered are:

- Maturity of the underage player
- The number of players of similar skill level in the higher age group
- The impact on the higher age group team
- The impact on the same age group team
- Level of play available in outside Associations for both age groups
- Timing of the move to a higher age group team
- Impact on the city of Ottawa Ringette Association
- Any other factors relevant to the particular situation

The decision to move or not move an underage player to a higher age group team must involve all parties (parents, Association Board and coaches)

In addition to this policy, player movements must be compliant with all Ontario Ringette Association and

