

NEPEAN RINGETTE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

August, 2011



Hi Everyone!

I hope you have all had a good summer so far. Believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about the upcoming ringette season. Remember to check the web site regularly at <http://www.nepeanringette.ca> for news and announcements as well as last minute changes to the tryouts and other schedules. During the try outs, the Division Directors will keep you posted as to what is happening. During the season, your team Manager will keep you up to date.

REGISTRATION: 2011-2012 SEASON – Fees for the upcoming season are unchanged from last season at \$530 for Novice through Belle players and \$230 for the Bunny program. Cheques can be made out for \$265 dated now and \$265 dated October 1, 2011. Please note that there will be a \$30 NSF fee applied to each cheque returned by the bank.

In person registration: Monday, August 29, 2011 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Nepean Sportsplex Rink 1 (Yzerman)

Mail or Drop-off: Complete the registration form from the website and mail (or hand carry) it, along with your cheques, to the NRA Registrar. The mailing address is listed on the registration form. Registrations must be received no later than Thursday 01-Sep-2011.

Late registration fees: For any returning players who have not registered by 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2011, a late registration fee of \$25 will apply, subject to space being available.

Players turning (or who have turned) 18 years of age between Dec. 31, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2011, or who are joining ringette in Ontario this year for the first time (including Bunnies), need to bring a copy of their birth certificate to the in-person registration or send a photocopy with their registration form.

Registration fee receipts for tax purposes will be issued for eligible players in late February 2012.

EXECUTIVE VACANCIES – We are in particular need of an Ice Scheduler. We also have other openings on the executive including Novice Division Director, Open Division Director, Webmaster and several other positions. Please contact Fred Black (nra_president@nepeanringette.ca / 613-823-6017), or Terry Fahey (613-223-2958 / nra_vpops@nepeanringette.ca) to donate your time to a very worthy cause. If you would like to help on any of the committees – fundraising, publicity, tournament, recruitment – we could certainly use your help. No experience necessary, just a willing attitude!

NEPEAN RINGETTE 24th ANNUAL TOURNAMENT – Our Annual Ringette Tournament will take place from November 17 – 20, 2011. We will again be requiring every player's parents to volunteer a few hours (typically three to four hours for each player in the Association). These few hours help us to reduce the tournament costs and generate income that is applied to help offset ever increasing costs of ice for games and practices. Every family will be required to provide some type of packaged, nut free food snack. Each team will be required to donate one or two items totaling \$40 for our prize table. Also, each team is required to send a representative to the tournament committee meetings held in the Fall. A Tournament newsletter with more information will be distributed to all teams in early October.

If you would like to help further with our tournament, please contact Shelley Glover at 613-843-0519 or nra_tournament@nepeanringette.ca. Please come out and join us in planning this memorable event. Tournament meeting dates will be posted on the website.

COACHES NEEDED – Every year we look for coaches in September to make sure that every girl in Nepean who wants to play ringette has the opportunity. Moms, Dads and older players are encouraged to volunteer for one of the most rewarding experiences in minor sports. If you have experience working with children and would like to learn more about coaching ringette, we have an opportunity for you! We can help you develop your coaching skills and knowledge through our mentoring program. This is also an excellent opportunity for high school aged players to fulfill community service hours. Nepean Ringette pays the full cost of training all coaches, trainers and managers.

If you're interested in coaching, please contact our Coaching Coordinator, Paul Richards at 613-489-2566 or fill in an application form available on the web site and email it to coach@nepeanringette.ca.

REFEREES REQUIRED – Looking for a part-time job? Wouldn't it be nice to have one where not only do you get paid, but yet get exercise and a whole different perspective of the game you love? Challenge yourself! We're looking for anyone 14 years or older. If you or anyone you know would be interested in becoming a referee, please contact referee@nepeanringette.ca.

FUNDRAISING – Fundraising is very important for the Association and its teams. Again this year, the teams will keep all proceeds collected via sponsorships.

One important note is that by Ontario law, any sort of raffle requires a municipal license. As Nepean Ringette does not hold such a license, any Nepean team holding a raffle or draw shall obtain the required license prior to holding any such event. Additional details on fundraising will be discussed in early October at the annual Coaches and Managers' meeting.

Loblaws gift cards will continue to be sold with 3% of the face value of the cards sold going directly to the team. These cards can be used at Loblaws, Your Independent Grocer, Super Store, Valu Mart and several related smaller chains. Please see the "Fundraising" section on www.nepeanringette.ca for contacts to purchase gift cards. With a little effort, the proceeds can add up quickly allowing some past teams to raise enough money to pay the registration fees for 2 tournaments during the year.

RONA will give every NRA parent a discount card which will offers 6% off most purchases at the time of purchase and a further 4% to the NRA to help with Association fundraising. This applies to the Rona Home & Garden, Nepean store. Conditions and details are at <http://www.nepeanringette.ca>.

Nepean Ringette is always interested in new corporate sponsorship programs. If you know of a business that would like to be a sponsor with the Nepean Ringette Association this season, please contact Fred Black (613-823-6017 or nra_president@nepeanringette.ca).

FALL CONDITIONING - Conditioning sessions will be held daily Thursday 01-Sep-2011 through Sunday 04-Sep-2011. Interested players will be divided into three groups of up to 25-30 players each based on age and level. Pre-registration is important to allow us to balance the number of skaters in each group and to maximize the number of players we can accommodate. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Players will be notified which session to attend. Questions may be directed to conditioning@nepeanringette.ca. The fee is \$15 for each hour attended. Please see <http://www.nepeanringette.ca> for the schedule and registration form.

PLAYER SELECTION AND TRYOUTS – The remaining Belle AA tryouts will begin on Monday August 29, 2011. Remaining tryouts begin on Tuesday September 06, 2011 with B/C sort-outs following the "A" tryouts for each age group. Please see <http://www.nepeanringette.ca> for the tryout and sort-out schedule, and check frequently for any updates as unforeseen challenges such as ice conditions or the number of players in a division could require last minute changes.

Tryout fees for AA , A and Novice B tryouts are a flat \$40 per player covering all sessions until a player is placed or cut, and include both AA and A tryouts where needed. All players intending to try out for a competitive team are required to register their intentions in advance. An on-line form for this purpose will be available on our web site prior to tryouts.

AA Tryouts (including Provincial Petite 1) - Our policy for out-of-Association players in AA divisions is that we select the best players available. Our Tween AA and Junior AA Teams are already formed. The upcoming Belle AA tryouts are open only to players continuing from the Spring, those who could not attend Spring tryouts due to illness/injury and those who are new to town.

A Tryouts (including Provincial Petite 2 and Novice B) - Our policy for "A" level out-of-Association players in all A divisions (except Open) is that they must place in the top half of the rankings in order to make the team.

Remember – no player will be allowed on the ice for any tryout session until they are registered or can provide a player try out release form from their home Association which has been fully completed. Also, a reminder that no player will be allowed on the ice without full equipment

B and C Sort-outs – Sort-outs for each B and C team will begin as soon as possible following the completion of tryouts for the preceding team in that age group (usually the following day or two, depending on ice availability). We do not charge for B / C sort-outs. Sort-outs are conducted in a similar fashion to competitive tryouts except that there are usually 2 ice times per level rather than the 4 usually used for an A or AA team. Attendance at sort-outs is important even if it is for only a single team as information gathered is needed to properly seed the team in the NCRRL.

Tryout Process – The first tryout sessions for each level generally focus on skating and other skills, with the specific exercises varying based on age group, level and for each session. As tryouts progress and teams come closer to being finalized there will be more emphasis on game situations.

At each tryout and sort-out we try to have four evaluators, two assessing each colour. The players are ranked according to the group on the ice at the time and then the rankings are tabulated. For the most part, teams are chosen directly according to rankings established, however, with the final few choices or cusp players, the Coach(es) will be allowed to use his/her/their discretion to make the final choice(s), particularly for AA and A teams. As in the past, at no time will a parent evaluate their own child.

Notification – The Division Directors will provide details on the process for notifying players of results or continuation at each tryout.

OPEN B – We intend to field an Open B team (probably Open B1) this season. For more information, please contact Patti Lewis-Hoey at open_2011@nepeanringette.ca.

REFUNDS – After Thursday September 1, 2011, refunds will only be available for medical reasons; other special circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact your Division Director.

COMMUNICATION – clear communication is essential for everyone involved with the Nepean Ringette Association. If you have a question, please contact your Division Director first who may, if necessary, direct you to a more appropriate person on the Executive. A listing of all Executive members is available on the website at <http://www.nepeanringette.ca/executive>.

The Division Directors have volunteered specifically to help clarify things for the people in their age group, so please help them to do their job – ask them questions! If they don't have the answer to your specific question, they will know, or will find out, where to get it.

Have a great remainder of the summer and see you in the arenas!

Fred Black

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