



Policy Section	Change	Policy Version #	Date Approved	Effective Date
All	Split into Sections	0	January 21, 2020	June 1, 2020
All	6.1 - Addition of U10 S1; 6.2 - Definitions, Non-BVRA goaltender rules; 6.3 - Revised and redefined; All - formatting	1	June 2023	June 15, 2023

6.0 PLAYER POLICY

6.1 Friend Requests

- 6.1.1 Friend Requests are only permitted in Active Start and U10 Step 1.
- 6.1.2 Friend Requests must be reciprocal. Only one request per player is permitted.
- 6.1.3 Friend Requests are not guaranteed. In U10, they will depend on tier placement of both players.
- 6.1.4 Friend Request forms must be completed and returned no later than the first evaluation session for that division.

6.2 Goaltenders

- 6.2.1 Definitions
 - 6.2.1.1 Full Time Goaltender (FTG) - A player in the U12 or older division, who plays only as a goaltender for their team in league, exhibition or tournament games.
 - 6.2.1.2 Hybrid Goaltender (HG) - A player in any division, who plays as a skater and a goaltender for their team on a regular basis in league, exhibition or tournament games.
- 6.2.2 Players interested in HG or FTG positions should indicate so during the registration process.
- 6.2.3 Players registered as a FTG will participate in goaltender evaluations only.
- 6.2.4 Players registered as a HG will participate in skater evaluations as well as modified goaltender evaluations.



- 6.2.5 FTG evaluation results are provided to head coaches at the team draft (see Policy 9.0). HG evaluation results are provided to head coaches at the team draft, alongside the skater evaluation results, the latter being used to determine that player's ranking within the division.
- 6.2.6 FTG are not guaranteed to make the top tier team in the division just due to the fact they are declared as a FTG.
- 6.2.7 All FTG will have a team to play on. In instances where there are more FTG registered than teams in the division, some teams may have multiple FTG, who will be expected to equally share goaltending duties for the team.
- 6.2.8 On teams with a FTG, goaltending duties will be primarily (95%+) allocated to the FTG. The role of an HG on such teams will be to provide back-up to the FTG, as a secondary goaltender in practices, and a game replacement to FTG in cases of their absence.
- 6.2.9 All goaltenders must wear an approved helmet or mask with a ringette cage.
- 6.2.10 All FTG must have a full set of their own goaltending equipment. At minimum, this includes leg pads, blocker, ringette catcher (Keely) or a hockey catcher, if preferred, and a stick. Optional, but recommended equipment includes a goaltender mask (with proper ringette cage), goaltender neck guard, goaltender chest protector, goaltender pants, goaltender jock/jill, knee pads, and goaltender skates.
- 6.2.11 Teams without a FTG will receive a set of goaltender equipment to be used by HG or players rotating into the goaltender position. The Head Coach will provide an Equipment Deposit to ensure the equipment is kept in good condition and returned at the end of the season.
- 6.2.12 All goaltenders in Active Start, U10 and U12 must comply with the RAB Goaltender Development Policies (24.0 and 27.0) which define the maximum number of games any player can play per season as a goaltender in those divisions (25% in AS/U10, 75% in U12).
- 6.2.13 FTG are not permitted to play any position other than a goaltender.



6.2.14 Non-BVRA Goaltenders

- 6.2.14.1 Teams may seek goaltenders outside of BVRA, only under the following conditions:
- (a) After the team is formed, the team does not have a FTG, HG or any players interested in trying out the goaltender position on the team roster, and
 - (b) The goaltender is of the appropriate age for the division, as defined by Ringette Alberta, and
 - (c) The goaltender's current placement or previous play history suggests that the tier in which they are seeking to play is appropriate, and
 - (d) The goaltender and their family are in good standing with BVRA (if former BVRA members) and their current or previous associations.
- 6.2.14.2 Team Staff must inform the Board of their intention to seek an external goaltender. All goalie recruitments are subject to approval by the Board.
- 6.2.14.3 Registration fees equal to the Early Bird FT goaltender registration as well as the Ringette Alberta fee must be paid prior to the goaltender participating with the team. BVRA fees may be prorated at the discretion of the Board, based on the length of season remaining at the time of application. Late registration fee will not be assessed.
- 6.2.14.4 Teams must comply with the terms and deadlines in Ringette Alberta's Registration Policy (2.0) and Residency Policy (3.0).
- 6.2.14.5 By becoming a part of BVRA, the goaltender is subject to all of the association's policies and those of Ringette Alberta.

6.3 Player Movement

- 6.3.1 In the U12 to U19 divisions, tiering should provide sufficient separation of skill levels to challenge all players and staying within the age division is expected. Each age division has pre-defined goals and recommended focus areas of development. As a player moves through each age division, skills and knowledge learned in the earlier division are built upon in a systematic manner.



- 6.3.2 Requests for players to evaluate and play in a division for which they are chronologically **younger than** will not be accepted under any circumstances, except those outlined below.
- 6.3.2.1 In alignment with Ringette Canada LTAP principles, parents or guardians of players whose chronological age places them in the Active Start division can request to instead evaluate in the U10 division, only under the following conditions:
- (a) The player has completed at least one full season in Active Start, and
 - (b) The parents or guardians of the player agree in writing that, by requesting a move, their player will remain for four consecutive seasons in the U10 division, as moving up to U12 prematurely is not permitted.
- 6.3.2.2 Players who have previously been approved to “play up” in U12 to U19 divisions, can be eligible to evaluate and play in a higher division, if they have already played the maximum number of seasons within those divisions (2 seasons in U12-U16) and they have played in the highest available tier in the division, during the previous season. In other words, a Tier A player will not be expected to play a 3rd consecutive season in a division. To the contrary, a Tier B player entering their 3rd consecutive season in the division, will not be eligible for movement.
- 6.3.2.3 If Sections 6.3.2.1 or 6.3.2.2 are applicable to a player, that player’s parents or guardians can request that the player move up in division. Requests for the move must be received in writing, no later than August 15 of each year. Failure to do so will result in the player being placed into evaluations, and subsequently on a team, within their “appropriate age” division.
- 6.3.2.4 Requests will be reviewed by the board. Approval to move up in divisions will only be valid for one season.
- 6.3.2.5 If a player's request to move up in division is approved, they will evaluate and be placed on a team within that division, in a tier suited to their ability. Returning to the “appropriate age” division will not be permitted under any circumstances.



- 6.3.3 Requests for players to evaluate and play in a division for which they are chronologically **older than**, will be accepted by BVRA but are subject to Ringette Calgary (RC) and Ringette Alberta (RAB) approval, per RAB's "Over Age Player Policy" (7.0).
- 6.3.3.1 Parents or guardians of the player need to inform BVRA of their intention to invoke the policy above, at the time of their player's registration, by emailing admin@bowviewringette.com. Players will need to register and will be evaluated in the division in which they intend to play.
- 6.3.3.2 Parents or guardians of the player are expected to support the BVRA staff making the request on their behalf to RC by providing the required supporting information (justification for request, gamesheets, etc.) in a timely manner. Deadlines will be discussed after the initial request has been made to BVRA.
- 6.3.3.3 Should the request be denied by RC or RAB, the player will be placed on a suitable team within their "appropriate age" division.
- 6.3.3.4 Voluntary moves back to the "appropriate age" division, once the evaluations have started, will not be permitted under any circumstances.
- 6.3.4 This policy is applicable to both skaters and goaltenders. Full Time Goaltenders (FTG), however, may be moved to play in a younger or older division only under the following conditions:
- (a) The request is initiated by BVRA to preserve viability of a team without a FTG in the younger or older division, and
 - (b) There are more FTG registered than teams in the "appropriate age" division, and
 - (c) Parental approval is obtained, and
 - (d) If required, all requirements in section 6.3.3 have been met.
- 6.3.4.1 The process for invoking policy section 6.3.4 is as follows:
- If, upon the completion of the registration period, but prior to the start of evaluations, it is evident that there will be a division where an insufficient number of FTG are registered, BVRA will consider FTG movement.



If the number of FTG in a division above or below meets the criteria (b) in 6.3.4, all FTG in those divisions will be considered for movement.

In the case of a move to an older division, consideration will first be given to FTG who are entering their second year in the “appropriate age” division. Likewise, in the case of a move to a younger division, consideration will first be given to the FTG who are entering their first year in the “appropriate age division”.

Upon identifying the potential FTG for a move, a discussion will be initiated with the parents of those FTG to gauge interest in the move. If more FTG are interested in the move than available spots in the younger or older division, BVRA board will make a decision by considering the previous playing experience, development pathway, physical development and social maturity of the FTG, as well as factors that may influence approval in 6.3.3 where applicable.

Once the decision has been made and agreement has been reached by the parents of the FTG, the move is considered final. Returning to the “appropriate age” division will not be permitted during that season.

FTG will be considered part of their new division, will be evaluated and ranked against other FTG in that division, and placed on a team according to their evaluations ranking.

6.3.4.2 BVRA is under no obligation to invoke policy 6.3.4.

6.3.4.3 BVRA may ignore requirement in 6.3.4 (b) if a cascading option for movement exists (e.g., movement of FTG from U14 to U16 to facilitate a move of FTG from U16 to U19).

Example implementation of Policy 6.3.4.3

Hypothetically, the number of FTG and teams per division in a particular season are:

U14 – 8 FTG for 6 teams | U16 - 5 FTG for 6 teams | U19 - 5 FTG for 6 teams

Two FTG from U14 may be considered for a move to U16. If so, then one FTG from U16 may be moved to U19, thereby making 6 FTG for 6 teams in all three divisions.



6.4 Male Player Inclusion Policy

- 6.4.1 See RAB statement on Male Player Inclusion [here](#).

- 6.4.2 Male players are expected to change in a separate space from the team dressing room in the U10 divisions and older for both practices and games. This is to be followed before and after practices and games.

- 6.4.3 Male players may enter the team dressing room 10 to 15 minutes before ice times for pregame coaching once the Coaching Staff has ensured the players in the dressing room are dressed and ready for the game.

- 6.4.4 It is assumed male players will enter the team dressing room post-game along with the Coaching Staff to be involved in the post-game coaches talk. Male players must leave the team dressing room at the same time the Coaching Staff leaves the team dressing room to allow the female players to change into their normal attire.