

Policy

LMRL AA Program Development Team Policy

Objective

The LMRL AA Program provides a mechanism for secondary participation in the AA Program for players released from the AA team tryouts or where no AA level exists. The intent of this policy is to define the scope of operation for the LMRL AA Program development teams.

Policy Description

Purpose of the Development Program

The purpose of the LMRL AA Development Program is:

1. To provide a vehicle for aspiring, AA-capable ringette athletes to develop and gain additional ringette skills by participating in the sport of ringette at a level beyond that which would normally be available at the local association;
2. To provide the AA teams with a “farm” system for the development of future talent and for call-up as and when needed; and
3. To provide an opportunity for AA-capable athletes to experience the challenges and benefits of competition at the AA level.

Operating Principles

1. The LMRL AA Development program is intended as a supplement to the development found at the local association level.
2. Teams participating in the LMRL AA Development program will be known as the LMRL Lightning.
3. LMRL Lightning teams shall wear jerseys distinct from the LMRL AA Thunder teams.
4. Development teams may be established at the discretion of the AA Program committee based on the availability of AA-calibre prospects in the year’s releases and the projected availability of sufficient ice resources surplus to AA team requirements.
5. Players participating on LMRL AA Development teams must also play on the local association team. Consequently, commitment levels for LMRL AA Development teams are well below that which is expected of AA teams and athletes.
6. Teams in the LMRL AA Program designated as Development are not qualified AA-calibre teams and, as such, are ineligible to participate in the provincial AA championships. Individual development team players added to the permanent roster of an AA team are exempted.
7. At the discretion of the LMRL AA Executive, Development teams that demonstrate the ability to compete effectively at the AA level may be informally

registered with the BC Ringette Association at the AA level. This measure is undertaken solely to facilitate entry into an out-of-province tournament in an AA division. This is available strictly as a development tool and does not imply or indicate AA certification for the Development team.

8. In order to facilitate and optimize the development of teams that will represent the league at the provincial AA championships and the Western and Canadian Ringette Championships, AA teams will be afforded priority in allocation of all LMRL AA Program resources according to the LMRL AA Resource Allocation policy. No practice ice will be available to the Development program teams after the Provincial AA Championships.
9. To expand opportunities for participation and development of athletes and the LMRL AA Program, Development teams will carry a full roster of no less than fifteen skaters and two goaltenders whenever AA-capable players are available and willing to participate. Furthermore, players departing prematurely shall be replaced wherever AA-capable athletes are available and willing to participate.