

Hi Cochrane U12 Ringette players and parents

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Ringette Season. Ringette at the U12 level across the province of Alberta is grouped into A, B and C levels of play. Teams will be formed at some or all of these levels in Cochrane following a period of player evaluation between Sept 13th and Sept. 22. Evaluation is an association wide activity that takes a considerable amount of time and resources.

Please review the following evaluation information.

Ringette Alberta's tiering policy that includes the use of The Universal Athlete Assessment at the U12 level. The Universal Athlete Assessment (UAA) is an assessment tool designed to better assign teams to tiers at the start of the season. The goal is to improve competitive equality between teams across Alberta. Ringette Alberta has made the Universal Athlete Assessment (UAA) mandatory for all associations again this season. The UAA consists of 4 timed skill stations at the U12 level, Ringette Alberta will examine the total average scores submitted from this session, higher overall average groups of scores will be tiered higher than lower overall average groups of scores. You can find more information about the Universal Assessment (UAA) by clicking on this link: <http://www.ringettealberta.com/universal-athlete-assessment/> The U12 group is large and we are breaking the group up into two by birth year for the UAA skill session to allow us to finish all the testing. The evaluation schedule for the U12 group is attached and can be found on the Cochrane Ringette webpage.

In addition to UAA, players will participate in a number of on ice evaluation sessions consisting primarily of scrimmage type play, both 3 on 3 and 5 on 5. Areas evaluated include skating, competitiveness, ring handling and game sense. Scrimmage teams may change between the sessions in an attempt to establish balanced game play. Players will be expected to be available to participate in all sessions however may be notified by the evaluation coordinators that a specific session is not required. We hope that evaluation is not stressful for players and parents, all of our teams are focused on having fun, building teamwork and personal skills development throughout the season.

The goal of evaluation is:

- *to provide a fair and impartial evaluation of players*
- *to ensure that all players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill level as determined during the evaluation of the current year*
- *to form teams where players can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing ringette during the season*

It is expected that players participate in ALL evaluation sessions. The timelines to get teams submitted to Ringette Alberta are very tight, we understand that every evaluation session will not be a great fit with everyone's schedule. We hope that you can accommodate the evaluation times we have as we don't have the flexibility to extend evaluation past September 22nd. Special circumstances such as illness or family emergency will be considered by the evaluation committee to determine the best placement for that player.

Evaluators for the U12 division will be individuals not affiliated with the age group being evaluated. Evaluators can not evaluate where their own children/relatives play. Potential coaches will not evaluate the division they have applied to coach. Players will remain anonymous to evaluators through the use of non-identifying jerseys or pinnies.

Evaluations will be progressive and team selections will be based on evaluator scoring input. Final placements of those players deemed "bubble" (evaluation results do not clearly indicate that the player made a team) will be made with input from potential coaches (including the evaluation sheets they fill out at each of the evaluation sessions), evaluators and the evaluation committee as needed. Coaches who are parents or relatives of players under discussion will not participate in this selection decision.

Final coaching selections will not be announced until evaluation and team selection have been completed. Coaches are still needed for the U12 division, if you are interested in being a coach or an assistant coach please contact our coach development director Danni Martyn, (coachdevelopment@cochraneringette.com). The season gets off to a more enthusiastic start if we have coaches in place when teams are formed.

To help evaluations run smoothly an Evaluation Committee has been formed comprised of board members, the committee member leading the U12

evaluations this year is Andy Teskey, in addition Shannon Borbandy is our UAA committee member. Please direct any questions you have about evaluation, team formation or the season ahead to us, we are here to help.

We need evaluators and off ice volunteers to be successful, the stronger our evaluation team the stronger the evaluation results will be, if you have experience and can volunteer your time to help evaluate players in another age division, please contact Chris Gall.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Sincerely,
Evaluation Committee, Cochrane Ringette

Evaluation Committee Chair and Evaluation Volunteer Coordinator
Chris Gall (viceoresident@cochraneringette.com)

U12 Evaluation Coordinator:
Andy Teskey (treasurer@cochraneringette.com)

UAA Coordinator:
Shannon Borbandy (ltadliaison@cochraneringette.com)

COCHRANE RINGETTE U12 EVALUATION SCHEDULE FOR 2017-2018 SEASON

Wednesday, September 13th UAA Skill Session**

Totem 1

6:15pm - 7:15pm players born in 2007

7:30pm - 8:30pm players born in 2006

**All players should complete the UAA, please be prepared with full equipment and sticks. Goalies are not required to complete the UAA, but if you are a goalie who plays out sometimes as a skater you should compete the UAA.

Thursday, September 14th Evaluation Session

Totem - 1

6:30pm - 7:30pm participants to be determined

Tuesday, September 19th Evaluation Session

Totem - 2

6:30pm - 7:30pm participants to be determined

Wednesday, September 20th Evaluation Session

Cochrane Arena

6:00pm - 7:00pm participants to be determined

Friday, September 22nd Evaluation Session

Cochrane Arena

6:15pm - 7:15pm participants to be determined