

Membership Notice - Western Region Ringette - Player Releases

A player wishing to seek playing opportunities outside of their home association, for whatever the reason, must first obtain a signed Part I try out form (MF07) for each association whose tryouts the player wishes to attend. This insures that the home players association is aware of the players intentions. In signing their Home Association President should inform them of the rules and procedures involved in the tryout/release process.

A player then attends tryouts providing a Part I (MF07) to each association. From this point on the process is in control of the receiving association.

If an association wishes a player to participate on their team they must invite the player, insure that the player movement is within the rules, take the tryout form Part I (MF07) and complete Part II Player Release Form. The following are required in completing this form:

- If level of play or age group not available the level of play/age group not available in the home association.
- If other provide a full explanation of other as indicated in the Western Region documentation.
- Identify the number of consecutive releases for this player
- The signatures obtained in sequence of the Player or Parent, the releasing association president and the receiving association president. The releasing region and receiving region signatures are required on out of region requests.
Note: if a home association refuses to sign the release and the receiving association feels this refusal is outside the policies and procedures the request can be submitted without this signature but with an explanation.

The only signatures required from associations are the home association and the receiving association. Any intervening or closest associations are not applicable to this form but if they have been contacted and agreed to the process a document indicating this should be included. A copy of an email is acceptable.

Once the form is complete it must be forwarded to the Western Region Membership Services Coordinator. The Coordinator will review it for completeness and compliance with the policies and procedures of the ORA and Western Region.

Three actions can result from this review.

1. If incomplete or in error the form will be returned with explanation for correction and resubmission.
2. If everything is in order it will be signed and the association will be notified of approval.
3. The release may be rejected and explanations provided. Rejection can only be because it does not meet the published policies and procedures of the ORA and Western Region.

At this point in time the Membership Services Coordinator for the region will provide an official denial of the release, dated and time stamped via email, to the requested releasing association. This action shall serve as "written notice that the release has been denied" and the association has seven (7) days to submit a written request for a Release Tribunal. This request must be sent to the Region Secretary accompanied by the reasons and a nonrefundable certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$200. The seven day requirement is a change from ORA established at the May 2010 board meeting.

If an association knows that the release they are requesting will be rejected by the region they can shorten the process by including the request for Tribunal and the certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$200 with the original release submission. This would indicate that the association feels the rules and policies of the ORA and Western Region have not been properly applied.

Once a tribunal request has been received and accepted the region must schedule a tribunal within seven (7) days. A region may refuse to accept a request for a tribunal - normally because the procedures are not followed correctly or the documentation is incomplete - and will identify the reasons and return everything so the problem can be corrected and the request resubmitted. In Western Region if this happens the seven-day clock will be restarted.

From the questions received to date from throughout Western Region and with the change to the contested release policy the above should provide the detail required for the process. Any further questions may be addressed to the Membership Services Coordinator

Full detail on the ORA rules governing releases, contested releases and two player contracts are available on the Western Region web site at <http://www.wrra.ca/documents/MSdocV4.html>. Please read these in detail to get a full understanding.

G. Keith Kaiser
Membership Services Coordinator
Western Region Ringette Association
1-519-268-7446
memserv@wrra.ca