

**TO: All Ringette Calgary teams**  
**FROM: Judy Renneberg, League Director**  
**RE: Cohort Coaches and Team Sizes**

It has come to my attention that there is some confusion regarding Cohort Coaches and team sizes among many teams. This confusion has resulted in some major reshuffling of game schedules, particularly in U16A and U16B, so I encourage you all to double-check your schedules in case a change has occurred that impacts you.

In order to have consistent messaging and to clear up any questions regarding cohorts, here are some points to use as reference:

- A minimum of 2 Cohort Coaches are required for every team
- No Non-cohort coaches are permitted in AS-U12
- Teams should aim for a maximum of 16 (players and COHORT Coaches). Teams may be larger than this due to association registration numbers, especially at U16 and U19, but 16 is ideal for arranging cohorts. \*Note: team sizes are set by your association, and are not in your control. You are only able to control how many COHORT coaches you have.
- Teams are not required to reach the maximum of 16 (e.g. if there are 11 players, teams may choose to only add 3 cohort coaches for a total of 14)
- **Once you have declared your 2 cohort coaches and have reached 16 or more you are not permitted to have any further cohort coaches.** The remainder of your coaches must be NON-COHORT Coaches (again, this is not possible for AS-U12 as all coaches must be cohort coaches) and should be masked and physically distanced at ALL times.
- If you would like to swap out your cohort coaches for non-cohort coaches, you MUST wait until after the 14 day isolation period has ended, and during that time, ALL coaches should be masked. That means that your NEW cohort coaches can not become part of the cohort until the first day of the next session.
- You should always communicate with the other teams in your cohort to discuss how many COHORT coaches you have and in some cases, if you are in a cohort of two teams, you MAY be able to add more COHORT coaches for your session (making sure to also include them in the 14 day isolation period). This is something that needs to be carefully managed to ensure you do not exceed the maximum cohort size of 50, or exceed facility protocols for maximum participants.
- You are encouraged to share cohort coaches among your cohort teams during your session. This is a developmental, collaborative season, so we would like to see you all work together to support each other.

Finally, a note about masks/face coverings. As per Ringette Alberta policy, all NON-COHORT staff must be masked and remain physically distanced at all times. All COHORT staff must wear masks whenever possible, including on Players Benches, dressing rooms, and in public spaces as per City of Calgary Bylaws.

We encourage you to direct any further questions to your local association members if this information is not clear to you.