

**Central Committee on Differentiated Play  
July 15, 2007**

**To: Central league**

**The Central League Special Committee on Differentiated play , formed as a result of direction from the Central League Annual General Meeting, April 28, 2007, is pleased to provide the following recommendation to the Central league to be considered for the 2007/2008 season. This proposal is endorsed by the following associations:**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Bedford</b>	<b>Joan Cote</b>		
<b>Bedford</b>	<b>Andrew Hines</b>		
<b>Berwick</b>			
<b>Berwick</b>			
<b>Chebucto</b>	<b>David Cunningham</b>		
<b>Chebucto</b>	<b>Sandy Falconer</b>		
<b>Cole Harbour</b>	<b>Dana Mason</b>		
<b>Cole Harbour</b>	<b>Liz O’Hanley</b>		
<b>Dartmouth</b>	<b>Sandra Godin</b>		
<b>Dartmouth</b>	<b>Chris</b>		
<b>Eastern Shore</b>			
<b>Eastern Shore</b>			
<b>Halifax St Margarets</b>	<b>Tom McLean</b>		
<b>Halifax St Margarets</b>	<b>Cathy Burton</b>		

<b>Halifax St Margarets</b>	<b>Lindsay Bennett</b>		
<b>Sackville</b>	<b>Janet Ferguson</b>		
<b>Sackville</b>	<b>Lucille Vey</b>		

**Committee Objective**

**To implement changes to the Central League divisional play that will facilitate player development by enhancing the competitive play within the league. The proposed structure will have teams scheduled to encounter teams of more similar skill levels, thus enhancing the possibility of closer game outcomes. The underlying premise is that when like skilled teams compete in closely matched games, then players benefit from enhanced skill development opportunities (all players more involved in play, with increased ring time per player).**

**The committee felt that it is very important to develop a structure which will enhance player's enjoyment in playing ringette while promoting skill development. This proposal does this while not being detrimental to any individual associations as all existing policies remain unchanged.**

**Committee Governing Mandate**

- a. Will not create undue hardship for specific associations**
- b. Will not be detrimental to Ringette growth and development.**
- c. Will not encourage the transfer of players from associations**
- d. Will not encourage transfer of players between levels within an association**
- e. Will not create undue financial burden to association members.**
- f. Will not create undue requirement for incremental ice for the league**

**Proposal**

**For the 2007/2008 season, implement modifications to the league scheduling to improve the quality of play. The teams will be scheduled to play in 6 week rotations that at the end of each 6 week period teams will be allocated based on standings. Each division that has 8 or more teams will consist of two loops (Red and Green for illustrative purposes). Based on standings teams will only be**

**scheduled to play other teams that are also assigned to their loop. Following are the operating principles:**

- A. Competitive scheduling will only apply to divisions with 8 or more Central League teams registered at a playing level. This count will not include any teams that participate in league play as part of provincial or development programs.**
- B. All associations will enter balanced teams for the 2007/2008 season. This applies for teams that will fall under competitive scheduling and those that are scheduled outside this program - ( i.e. divisions with fewer than 8 teams)**
- C. Teams will be initially seeded in the competitive scheduled format by the following criteria:**
  - 1. based on team performance at the divisional level for the past two seasons. ( average standing over two years)**
  - 2. approved by a sub committee that will have one appointed representative from each association. This one sub committee will be accountable for all divisional levels that qualify for Competitive scheduling.**
- D. Divisional play will be established such that teams will be participate in a two loop system. ( Loop Red and Loop Green for illustration purposes). At all times each loop will schedule if possible 50% of the divisional teams. In a odd numbered divisions of teams( 9, 11, 13) the teams will be assigned as follows:**

<b>Registered Divisional Teams</b>	<b>Loop Red</b>	<b>Loop Green</b>
<b>7 or less</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

- E. Play will commence as indicated in step ‘C’ above and be scheduled for the first round of league play (6 game schedule). In a division with 14 teams this will allow minimum each team to play all opponents.**
- F. Teams will then be assigned to play the second round of the schedule based on the league standings. Teams will/should move from Red loop to Green, and Green loop to Red.**

**3. Tie Breaking formula to be added**

- G. This procedure will continue until the completion of league play. Existing 17 game schedule will have two allocations.**
- H. Central league will recognize only one Divisional Championship for the Red loop with a banner.**
- I. RNS Provincial play down format remains unchanged**

**The committee believes this will enhance the quality of Central league play, increase competitiveness, improve player development, improve team development, and create an exciting playing environment for the players.**

**The efforts of the Central Sub-committee on differentiated play must be recognized. The sub-committee met on six occasions and many frank discussions were held in order to arrive at the consensus which is embodied in the proposal above. The interests of the players and the respective associations have been central to our discussions. Our intent is to try and find ways to enhance the ringette experience for our current players and to make the game more attractive for potential players.**

**Thank you also to those members of various associations who contributed to the discussion via various avenues (verbal input, email, visit to the committee) and special thanks to Dr. Kevin Gordon for coming to one of our meetings to provide additional information and to answer questions about his written submission. Our current proposal contains a number of elements from Dr. Gordon’s proposal.**

**Special thanks to Andrew Hines for preparing the draft and subsequent revisions of this proposal.**