



NWVRA Team helpers/ mentors/ peer support

Definition: Peer support occurs when people provide knowledge, experience, emotional, social or practical help to each other. A peer has "been there, done that" and can relate to others who are now in a similar situation.

The North West Vancouver Ringette Association has various levels of play, from U9 – 18+. The association appreciates anyone that is willing to take on volunteer roles, however factors must be taken into consideration prior to any players assisting teams other than their own.

Steps in seeking peer helpers:

Coaches in need of assistance are welcome to seek player's aid for team practices from higher age divisions; however certain age groups are not eligible due to maturity level, lack of experience and leadership abilities.

Players participating in a helper/ or mentorship role must be approved first by the team Head Coach, and then by the NWVRA Executive Committee PRIOR to assisting.

Players taking on a helper/ mentorship role must do so for the benefit of assisting other players in growth, not for their own extra ice benefit.

Executive members must take into consideration factors such as mental maturity, leadership skills/ experience and game experience when approving players to become helpers/ mentors for lower age divisions.

- U9 and U10 divisions are not eligible for peer mentoring
- U12 first and second year players can help/ mentor for U9
- U12 second year players can help/ mentor for U10
- U14 players can help/ mentor for U9, U10 and U12
- U16 players can help/ mentor for U9, U10, U12 and U14
- U19 and 18+ players can help/ mentor for U9, U10, U12, U14 and U16

Helpers/ mentors/ peer support are not bench staff; they are simply mentors and helpers at peer levels. See BCRA policy 3.1b below:

3.1 Bench Staff Certification Requirements

b. All coaching staff must be 16 years of age and older (Note: Registered players 15 years of age and younger and therefore not old enough to take a coaching course (per BCRA and Ringette

Canada policy), are permitted to participate with a team as a "coach in training", they are not considered bench staff).

3.5 Trainer Qualifications

The trainer must be 18 years of age or older and have valid 1st Aid Certification.