

# Ringette Rodeo rounds up equipment for players in need



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Calgary families are asked to donate any used ringette gear so families who might not be able to afford new equipment can get in the game. *ED KAISER / EDMONTON JOURNAL*

When Katherine Casey enrolled her two girls in ringette, she started noticing not all the players were

using the right equipment. Some girls were wearing the wrong sizes and some were using old hockey pads.

Casey started asking around in the ringette community and discovered there was nowhere for players looking to get ringette equipment on a budget. That prompted Casey to team up with the Calgary Ringette Association and The Ringette Store for the first ever Ringette Roundup; a charity drive to collect used equipment for kids in need.

“I started this in March, so I started trying to collect the gear at the very last tournament of the year,” said Casey. “There was a fair amount of equipment within the first 24 hours.”

Calgary families are asked to donate any used ringette gear so families who might not be able to afford new equipment can get in the game. The Ringette Roundup is the first stage of the Ringette Rodeo, where the donated equipment will be distributed to those in need.

“I think because the equipment is so expensive, it is a game that is difficult to get into,” said Casey. “I’m trying to drive this towards families that do need help getting into it. So I’m trying to provide this as an equal opportunity.”

Equipment can be dropped off during July and August at The Ringette Store, located at 108A, 3604 52 Ave N.W. Good samaritans who donate equipment will receive a 20 per-cent discount coupon from The Ringette Store for a future purchase.

The Ringette Rodeo will be held on Aug. 21 at the Ernie Starr Arena in the S.E., and the Ringette Store will have staff on site to make sure players will be fitted for proper sizing before handing out donations.

“My outcome is to be able to have enough gear to provide a full set to any girl in need,” said Casey. “I think if we get the word out about rounding up the amount of gear, I believe we will definitely hit that goal.”

Additional equipment can be dropped off during the event on Aug. 21 between 11 p.m. and 12 p.m., with gear being distributed from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

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