

The

REF-O-GRAM

January 2011

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Ontario Ringette Association's Officiating Newsletter

The first half of the season is already over and I'm scratching my head wondering where it went. Every year, the first half of the season seems to go by quicker than the last.

This past fall, the program ran seven Level 1 clinics and four Level 2/3 clinics across the province. A total of 115 officials participated, including 100 new officials.

In December, we ran a Community Evaluator clinic in Pickering. Nine experienced officials, representing four regions, took part in the weekend long course, where the basic aspects of officiating at levels 1 and 2 were broken down into their finer details. Congratulations go out to Lyndsey Matsumura, Sam Campbell, Amy Murray, Margareth Peressutti, Darcy Hodgson, Marie-Catherine Laframboise, Patricia Burke, Dan Cockburn and David Bretsznajer for surviving the weekend and completing the course.

On the administration side, I would like to welcome Denise Pelletier to, and Karen Meek back to, the Officiating Committee. Denise has taken over the duties as Western Region Coordinator and Karen has filled the spot vacated by the North West Region. Each brings individual strengths and experiences at different levels that can only help guide this program towards the future. In addition to being a member of the committee, Karen has taken over the role of Evaluations Manager. She succeeds Rob Evans, who I wish to thank for his hard work and dedication, and will now be the central contact for all evaluations and upgrade requests.

I always feel a sense of pride when our officials do well at the national and international levels. Last spring, our province staffed twelve of the twenty-one officials at the Canadian Ringette Championships (CRC's). This past summer, Natalie Fortin from Ottawa and Kevin Lee from Mississauga were selected to represent Canada at the World Ringette Championships held in Finland in November. In August, Lorie Grant, Rob Drury, Danielle Lalonde-Clarkin, Karen Meek, and Janyce Gunn were selected to officiate at the next Canada Winter Games. Out of the ten officials selected to attend these two premier events, eight are from Ontario. Our continued success at the elite levels is a direct result of the hard work done by our evaluators, instructors, supervisors and officials. If we continue to work hard, we will continue to be rewarded.

In July, three of our members, two current and one alumna, were inducted into the Ringette Canada Hall of Fame. Steve Blacklock, Mark Renkiewicz and Bruce Heaslip all received the greatest honour possible in our sport. I know both Steve and Mark extremely well and I can honestly say that no two people in our program deserve to be there more than them. Both are character people with impeccable resumes which include officiating at CRC's, CWG's and World Championships. Congratulations to these three new members as they have made ORA proud.

This winter will see a change to our Provincial Championship format. There will be three events between February and April: Provincial AA's, Provincial A's and U12 Provincials. The U12 division has been moved out of the A and AA Provincials and a new Championship has been created solely for this age group. This event will premier in Mississauga in April and should create additional developmental opportunities for some of you.

At the National level, the Eastern Canadian Tween Championships has been replaced with the Eastern Canadian Championships. The event has been expanded to include the U14AA, U19A and U16A divisions. This event will be held in Charlottetown in April and with its increased number of divisions, there will be an increase in the required number of officials. This will provide some of you with another opportunity beyond the Provincial level.

As this season will be the last for the current rules cycle, be aware that each and every one of us will have to take a refresher clinic next fall. For those of you who will be eligible to take the Level 2/3 clinic, check with your Regional Coordinator in September for availability. At this point, we are unsure if Ringette Canada will have the Level 2/3 clinic materials available for next year (we typically do not run these during rule change years) but we are hoping that they are.

I would like to welcome back Rick Thomson and Chris Bradt to the evaluating program. Both bring a wealth of knowledge of all things officiating and both will help in the development of officials in their local areas.

On a final note, as this will be the last ROG I work on as Chair of the Committee, I would like to thank two people in particular for their help over the past few years: Derek Burger, who helped me out when I thought my officiating career was over and Karen Meek who gave me the benefit of the doubt when she did not have to. Both people have been instrumental in my officiating career and have helped me out immensely over the past four years as Chair.

Enjoy the rest of the season and I look forward to seeing you around the rink.

Brent Bunting
Chairman Officiating Development Committee
bbunting@strongtie.com



Western Region

Happy New Year! Well, the holidays are over, we have jump started the second half of the season with lots of ringette. It will be an extremely busy second half of the season with many western region tournaments, Prelims, Provincials and Regional Championships.

First, congratulations and welcome to Western's new officials. Hopefully you have all had the opportunity to do a few games by now. Remember to ask your Referee in Chief to sit down and evaluate you some time in the next few months. Thank you to the veteran referees of the Western Region who have stepped up to cover many game this season so far, without the referees there would not be any games.

This time of year is the busy tournament time and if you are interested in attending any please submit your names early. These are the building blocks for exposure, evaluations and upgrades. You will not move up through the system if you do not travel outside of your home association, so please try to attend one before Regionals.

Regionals will be held the weekend of March 25-27 in the Guelph and Elora/Fergus Arenas. Online registration for Regionals will be posted on the western website www.wrra.ca in February. If you have never participated before, please do not hesitate to register. Last year we used over 70 officials during the weekend.

Enjoy the rest of the season.

Denise Pelletier
Western Region Coordinator
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Central Region

Happy January! It seems almost silly to welcome everyone back, especially since we've been on-ice for three months now. Instead, I want to congratulate everyone on a great start and to mention how much fun it was to kick things off in Oshawa this year! It was great to see our winter family come together again and to see truth in the ancient proverb that "the more things change, the more they stay the same."

Central held two very successful clinics this year, and I would again like to thank Oshawa Ringette for providing our clinic meeting rooms. As in previous years, our evaluators have been assigned their officials for this season, and they will be contacting you at some point so they can watch you on-ice and provide feedback. It is only through the hard work of our evaluators that we learn and improve and I would like to thank each one of them for their efforts this upcoming season.

I would also like to welcome Rick Daly back to Central Region. Rick is a National-level official, a Provincial evaluator, instructor, and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team. We are very lucky to have him back.

I would also like to give special mention to Robert Drury, Janyce Gunn, and Karen Meek who will be representing our region and our Province at the Canada Winter Games this upcoming February. They are role models for us all and I encourage you to watch them on-ice in order to learn and improve.

I would also like to recognize the following officials for their accomplishments during the 2009-2010 ringette season:

- **Canadian Ringette Championships** – Rick Daly, Robert Drury, Janyce Gunn, Karen Meek, and Sue Shantz
- **Provincial 'A' & 'AA' Championships** - Dan Bartley, Sam Campbell, Robert Drury, Melissa Findlay, Janyce Gunn, Lyndsey Matsumura, Karen Meek, Becky Murray, and Sue Shantz
- **Regionals** - Tara Armstrong, Emma Bragg-Smith, Sam Campbell, Crystal Carmichael, Gavin Clark, Cara Coghlan, Chris Feher, Melissa Findlay, Erica Gaffney, Nicole George, Tamiko Kotack, Emily Lam, Lyndsey Matsumura, Kent Missons, Taylor Noel, and Doug Reynolds

In closing, I want to remind you that this season will be one of the busiest for Ontario Ringette. There are many opportunities for officials at all levels and I encourage each one of you to set goals for this season on what you want to achieve. Work hard, practice your officiating, and take in all the feedback you can. Learn from one another, work together, and most of all...have FUN☺

Amy Murray
Central Region Coordinator
amykmurray@hotmail.com



Eastern Region

As usual, things are quite busy in Eastern Region. Thank you again to Patricia Burke and Michelle Bainbridge who continue to tackle the very onerous job of assigning for the region. Thank you also to Jennifer MacInnis who has been generating paysheets so all of our officials can be paid accurately. We welcome Kristy Mueller on board who took over this job from Jennifer as of November. Without these folks doing their jobs, things just could not function properly.

As of the beginning of December, approximately 35 of our 112 officials had already been evaluated at least once. I am

quite pleased with this and hope to keep up the momentum as we head into the busiest part of the season. We have also added three new community evaluators – Patricia Burke, Dan Cockburn, and MC Laframboise. Look for them around the arenas. They are able to evaluate up to a 2A.

I would like to remind everyone that although we try to keep track of those in need of evaluation, it is difficult given the numbers of officials vs. the number of evaluators. The primary onus is still on you to make sure that you get your maintenance evaluations as required and/or the evaluations needed to move up in rank. Your RIC is your primary point of contact and can facilitate this process for you. Please let them know if you are in need of evaluation.

Again this season, AA Provincials will be held in Eastern Region. The event will take place February 24–27 and will be hosted by Ottawa. For those of you up-and-comers who would like to get a feel for an event like this, volunteering as a shot clock operator is a great way to get some experience. A good shot clock operator is worth their weight in gold and who better to do it than an official? If you are interested, please contact me and I can put you in touch with the event coordinators once I have that information.

Have a great remainder of the season everyone. Hope to see you all on the ice sometime soon.

Marie Shinmoto
Eastern Region Coordinator
bunkyii@rogers.com



Northeastern Region

Another great year has almost passed by already and so far so good in the Region. There have been many teams travelling around the Province for some great tournaments and some referees have also joined them. Before continuing on with news, I would like to congratulate a couple of people for their hard work and dedication. First, I would like to thank Wayne Spencer from Sault St. Marie for his ongoing commitment to the sport of Ringette. This season, Wayne decided it was time to hang up the skates and focus on evaluating and assisting some of the younger officials around the Region and Province. Wayne has been a valuable asset to our region for many years, and I wish him the best with his off-ice duties. Hopefully you will see him around the rinks, especially for the Regionals in April. In addition, I would like to thank Andre Labelle from Massey, who has been a dedicated official and now evaluator for nearly 25 years. Andre's dedication to officiating around the Province for so long has been greatly appreciated and acknowledged. I wish him the best as well with his ongoing on-ice duties.

In other news, I would like to extend invitations for referees to

travel out of their home associations for tournaments if they can fit it into their schedule. There are always spots for you in our tournaments, as well as tournaments around the Province. It is great to let people know who you are and possibly get some evaluations. Please contact me if you are ever interested in any tournaments. The following tournaments are still left to be held: Timmins, January 28-30 and West Ferris, February 18-20. The Regionals will be taking place in Sault St. Marie on April 1-3; should you be interested, please send me an e-mail and I will place you on the list. Please take advantage of these if you can. There are always accommodations available at these tournaments. You can also apply for travel expenses from ORA, as we have some money allotted to this program.

In some new news, Dave Bretsznajer is now a community evaluator and will be around the rinks if you need some evaluations. There are also evaluators in North Bay, Sudbury, Sault St. Marie and Timmins. Take advantage, they are a great resource.

So, in conclusion, keep up the great work. There are a lot of good opportunities out there; don't be afraid to take them up once in a while. Hopefully you are all in full swing and looking forward to the Regionals in April as a final tournament. If you ever have any questions regarding officiating and/or rules, please let me know and I will answer your questions. Enjoy the rest of the season, and hopefully I will see you around the rinks.

Jeff Graham
Northeastern Region Coordinator
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Southern Region

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and are well rested for the second half of the season, which will prove to be a busy one with all the tournaments, provincial and regional events coming up. This year, Cambridge will be hosting the Canadian Ringette Championships, starting March 28 to April 3, 2011. This is an excellent opportunity to go and watch some great Ringette but more importantly to see some of the best officials within Canada; some you may even recognize. If you can, get out and support the black and white.

I would like to welcome all of the new officials who took the Level 1 clinic this year; we had 47 in total. I hope that each of you has had the opportunity to go out and ref some games. Each and every one of you has made a decision to be a part of the sport of Ringette in an entirely different aspect and I wish you the best in your new career as an official. Congratulations to the 15 who attended the 2/3 clinic, you have made a choice to take your officiating to the next level. Good luck to all of you.

We have two new Community evaluators within our region who are capable of evaluating up to a 2A; they are Darcy Hodgson and I. For those of you wishing to be evaluated, it is up to you to contact your local RIC (for level 1's) or an evaluator if you are looking to move up from your current level. If you are having difficulties in locating an evaluator feel free to contact me for help.

Enjoy the rest of the season and I'll see you around the rinks.

Margareth Peressutti
Southern Region Coordinator
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ONTARIO OFFICIALS INDUCTED INTO RINGETTE CANADA'S HALL OF FAME

This past June, three officials from Ontario were inducted into the Ringette Canada Hall of Fame. Induction into the Hall of Fame is the highest honour that one can attain in our sport and is recognition of one's outstanding contribution to the game of Ringette and Ringette Canada. Congratulations go out to Steve Blacklock of Guelph, Bruce Heaslip of Hamilton and Mark Renkiewicz of Bowmanville.

Steve Blacklock

Steve Blacklock started officiating in Guelph in 1980 and quickly ascended up the ranks. In 1984 he was selected to officiate at the provincial championships, his first in what would be an impressive run of twenty-five straight appearances. At the national level, Steve officiated at nineteen Canadian Ringette Championships and the past five Canada Winter Games, where he was consistently selected to officiate in the final games. In 1994 and 2004, Steven was also selected to officiate at the world ringette championships. Off the ice, Steve has devoted much of his time to help develop officials and the officiating program. He has served on the Ringette Canada Officiating committee for a number of years and has also served as the rule book editor for two significant periods of rule changes.

Bruce Heaslip

Bruce Heaslip began his involvement with ringette in 1970 as an on-ice official in Hamilton, where for many years, he was a dedicated on-ice official and local Referee in Chief for the Hamilton Ringette Association. He became well known as a successful course conductor and master instructor – training both on-ice officials and course conductors across Ontario and throughout Canada. He was also an on-ice official at the first three Canadian Ringette Championships and attained the highest level of ringette officiating available at the time and he was a supervisor of officials at Nationals for the three years following that. One of Bruce's notable achievements on behalf of ringette officials across Canada was the inception and development of the Officials' Evaluation Program along with Bruce Kettles, Jim Benning and Doug MacQuarrie. Bruce contributed to the development of the officials' evaluation form, performance indicators and key deliverables in the program – many of which are still used today.

Mark Renkiewicz

Mark Renkiewicz began his officiating career in Oshawa in 1969 and remains active in ringette over 40 years later. He officiated at the first Ontario Provincial Ringette Championships in 1975 and has made almost consecutive appearances since that time. Mark was a constant figure at the Canadian Ringette Championships from 1980 through to 2004. In 1981 he was the recipient of the Ringette Canada Air

Canada Official of the Year award and in 1990 was the recipient of the Ontario Ringette Association Referee of the Year award. Besides his on-ice involvement, Mark has volunteered with the local, regional and provincial associations, has served as a local Referee in Chief and has instructed and evaluated young officials in the sport for decades.

ONTARIO OFFICIALS REPRESENT CANADA AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

This past November, Nathalie Fortin of Ottawa and Kevin Lee of Mississauga represented Canada at the 10th World Ringette Championships, held in Tampere, Finland. This event saw the national teams from Canada, Finland, U.S.A., and Sweden battle it out for ringette world supremacy. Only four officials were selected to work the event and both Lee and Fortin represented Ontario and Canada. Both Fortin and Lee have been mainstays at the National level for most of the last decade and each has officiated Provincial and National Championship final games. This was Kevin's second International event (2008 World Club Championships) and Nathalie's first.



ONTARIO OFFICIALS SELECTED TO WORK CANADA WINTER GAMES

The Canada Winter Games (CWG's) will be held in Halifax, February 11-19, and Ontario officials will be leading the way. Six of the eight officials selected to participate and both supervisors are Ontario residents. Congratulations go out to Brent Bunting, Rob Drury, Lorie Grant, Janyce Gunn, Danielle Lalonde-Clarkin and Karen Meek for being selected to officiate at this prestigious event.

ONTARIO OFFICIALS ATTAIN LEVEL 5 STATUS

Last summer, three of Ontario's officials attained their Level 5 status through Ringette Canada. Level 5 is currently the highest rank an official can attain in Canada and is truly representative of one's consistent excellence at national level events. There are currently only nine Level 5 officials in Canada and seven are from Ontario. Congratulations go out to Robert Drury of Whitby, Janyce Gunn of Oshawa and Danielle Lalonde-Clarkin of Ottawa.



KAREN MEEK NAMED PROVINCIAL OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR FOR 2009/2010

This past April, Bowmanville resident, Karen Meek, was named the recipient of the Provincial Official of the Year award for 2009-2010.

During 2009, Karen was selected to officiate at the U19 World Championships in Prague, where she officiated the final game. In addition, Karen participated at the 2009 Canadian Ringette Championships, where she was selected to officiate the NRL Championship game. These two games were the premier events that one could officiate in 2009 and Karen's selection for both is indicative of her on ice excellence.

In addition to her on-ice, Karen is a leader amongst the officiating group and is well respected. She is a Level 5 official, a Provincial evaluator and a Master instructor. Her on-ice and off-ice participation made her the perfect recipient of the Provincial Official of the Year Award for 2010. Congratulations go out to Karen, who is now the only two time winner of this award.

The Regional award winners for 2009/2010 are:

- Eastern Region – *Marie Catherine Laframboise*
- Central Region – *Cara Coughlin*
- Northeastern Region – *Wayne Spencer*
- Southern Region – *Pat Turcotte*

SHOULDER PADS REQUIRED IN U19

As mandated by ORA this past summer all players participating in the U19 divisions must wear shoulder pads when playing. This requirement now ensures that all divisions below 18+ are consistent with the shoulder pad requirement. Be aware that this requirement is division specific and as such, a U19 player participating in a +18 division game is **not** required to wear shoulder pads during that game. In addition, this requirement does not apply to games involving out-of-province teams or tournament games between teams when out-of-province teams are in that specific division (i.e. all games in the division regardless of whether the actual game involves the out-of-province team are not included in this rule).

Should you become aware of a player who is required to wear shoulder pads and is not, the procedure is to ask that player to leave the ice and not return unless she is wearing shoulder pads. Should that player return to the ice after the warning, she will be assessed a delay of game penalty.

ABUSE TO BE DOCUMENTED ON GAMESHEET

At the request of the Games and Tournaments (G&T) committee this past fall, we have been asked as officials to help track incidents where we feel that we have been abused (verbally or physically) by coaches, players and fans. Should you feel that you were abused beyond that which we normally expect please ensure that it is written at the bottom of the gamesheet with the words "ABUSE" clearly identified along with a description of the event. If this happens, please ensure that your Regional Coordinator is contacted so that they may forward the information to G&T and we can look into what transpired.

OFFICIATING LOSES ONE OF ITS OWN: JOHN BARFOOT

Some of you may remember John as the kind referee who would stop to explain calls to the young girls. He had a way with the younger ringette players, teaching them the game as he went along, explaining and helping them understand how to play. Some of you will remember John as the referee that let the big girls play, only stepping in when it got too rough. Others will remember John on the bench of the Open B team, giving them his knowledge of the game; enjoying himself in

the company of athletes playing a game he loved. And he did love the game... the amount of travelling he did as parent, coach, and especially referee was tremendous. He was the "go to guy" for Sunderland Ringette and Newmarket Ringette Association for many years. He'd travel in from Greenbank for a game or two at the drop of a hat. Many a time he showed up in Newmarket still dressed in his referee clothing, after getting off the ice in Sunderland or a hockey game in Port Perry. He would just put on the skates, helmet and go. Myself, I will remember Johnny B. as a colleague, a teacher of the officiating side of ringette, a mentor of the challenges of ringette, and especially a friend; a friend I will miss at the arena... his smile, his welcome, his comment. A fellow referee, Rob Drury said "The rink will seem much colder without John." I couldn't have said it better.

Dave McFadden
Newmarket



JOHN DAVID BARFOOT Greenbank has lost a true friend and neighbour with the passing of John on Saturday, October 9, 2010. He was the beloved husband of Barb and the immensely proud and cherished father of Colleen and Leanne. John was greatly loved by his sister Wendy Nolan, his surrogate brother (in-law) Bill and their daughters Tara (Rich) and Hilary (Deon). He will be forever treasured by the Hansen family especially his buddy Carl and his many Cowan relatives. He was predeceased by his parents Ruth and Russell Barfoot and his stepfather John Richardson. John loved big -- family, friends, community, hockey, refereeing, ringette, eating, music, helping others, puttering, Little Hawk Lake, and yes -- the Leafs! He'll be so hugely missed. Family and friends will be received at the Low & Low Funeral Home, 1763 Reach Street, Port Perry, 905-985-7331, on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 from 6 to 9 p.m. A memorial service to celebrate the life of John Barfoot will be held at the Greenbank United Church, Hwy. 12, Greenbank on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Community Living Durham North would be appreciated. Online condolences may be made at www.lowandlow.ca



UPGRADE REQUEST SYSTEM PROBLEMS

This past fall, the upgrade request system was not working correctly. There was a problem with the link on the ORA website between September and December. If you had applied for your upgrade in rank during that time and did not receive confirmation from either your Regional Coordinator or the Officiating Chair, please re-submit your request.

All upgrade requests must be done through the ORA website at:

<http://ontario-ringette.com/officiating/upgrades.php?sub=officiating>

UPGRADE REQUIREMENTS – DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ARE?

Upgrade requirements are different depending on the rank you are trying to become. The following are the basic requirements, in addition to completing the required clinic, that one should know when trying to attain a new level.

- **Level 1** – requires one evaluation from an evaluator or local RIC to move within Level 1.
- **Level 2** – requires two evaluations from two different evaluators to move to and within Level 2.
- **Level 3** – requires three evaluations from at least two different Regional or Provincial evaluators. One evaluation must be from an evaluator based in a different region than the official.
- **Level 4** – requires four evaluations from at least two different Provincial evaluators. One evaluation must be from an evaluator based in a different region than the official. One evaluation must be on a tournament final game or a game during the Provincial AA's. Upgrade to and within Level 4 must be approved by the Chair of the Officiating Development Committee



“WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS...” ADULT RINGETTE TOURNAMENT III

Imagine... Ringette in the middle of the desert in Las Vegas! Ringette Destination is bringing it to you for the THIRD time on April 17-21, 2011. This exciting annual event is your chance to meet and compete with Ringette enthusiasts from across Canada in one of North America's hottest adult vacation destinations; a 'girls-get-away' with 3 guaranteed games of Ringette for good measure. Take in all the nightlife, shows and shopping that Vegas has to offer!

Registration is now open for all Open and Masters teams of all skill levels to go to Vegas. Check out our website <http://ringettedestination.com> for details and a registration form.

Referees: We will be recruiting 8 to 10 referees to come to Vegas with us, from all across Canada. We require a minimum Level 3 referee and 21 years of age. We have a great package set up for the referees, plus a package for a spouse / significant other / accompanying friend. If interested, email Dave McFadden at ric@ringettedestination.com for details. Referees we have taken in the past: Mike Morris (Alb), Rob Hanson (Ont), Dan Delaney (PEI), Melissa Findlay (Ont), Rod Mowat (Alb), Katie O'Connor (Ont), Mathieu Leduc (Que), Yvette Kramer (Ont), Angela Burger (Alb), Stephan Cote (Nevada), Dave McFadden (Ont).

Pass the word around to all the adult teams in your area. The more teams we have the better the tournament will be!

Looking forward to hosting you in Vegas!!

Tod Bovingdon - Tournament Director

"What Happens in Vegas..."

<http://ringettedestination.com>
todio@todio.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canada Winter Games – Halifax, Feb 11-18
Provincial AA Championships – Ottawa, Feb 24-27
Provincial A Championships – Waterloo, Mar 3-6
Canadian Ringette Championships – Cambridge, Mar 27-Apr 2
Eastern Canadian Championships – Charlottetown, April 8-11
U12 Event – Mississauga, April 14-17

A Tale of Two Referees: Life Lessons We Can All Learn From Two of this Summer's Biggest Officiating Blunders (By: Brian Kiley)

Below is an article I found that gives an impressive look at how to handle those mistakes that we make. BB

This summer has been a great one for sports and a tough one for sports officiating. While fans have been dazzled by all sorts of historic individual and team performances in a wide range of events, they have also been subject to the aggravation of the nightmare that takes years off the lives of diehard fans: the missed call by an official.

I have been fascinated to observe the reaction, by fans and officials alike, to some of these blunders, and I believe that two of them in particular can serve as powerful teaching moments for all of us.

The first came on June 2, 2010, in a baseball game between the Cleveland Indians and the Detroit Tigers. Unheralded pitcher Armando Galarraga had pitched brilliantly for the Tigers, and found himself one out away from a perfect game, a game in which the pitcher retires all 27 batters he faces, with no base hits and no walks. There had been only 18 such games thrown in Major League Baseball since 1900. The final batter hit a weak ground ball to the first base side, the first baseman fielded it and threw the ball to Galarraga who was covering first base to make the final out. But Jim Joyce, the first base umpire, called the runner safe. The perfect game was ruined. Players protested, but to no avail. After the game Joyce watched the replay in the umpires room. After watching it once he knew what everyone else in the stadium already knew: He had missed the call. The throw had beaten the runner, and the missed call had cost Galarraga a perfect game.

The second took place on June 18, 2010 in a World Cup soccer match between the United States and Slovenia. The United States had trailed 2-0 at halftime, but had made a furious comeback to tie the game at two. In the 86th minute Landon Donovan put a free kick into the penalty area from the right side, and Maurice Edu managed to get a foot on it to put it in the goal and give the United States a 3-2. However, referee Koman Coulibaly indicated that a foul had been committed on the play. He nullified the goal and awarded Slovenia a free kick. The game ended in a 2-2 draw, and Coulibaly became the recipient of venomous international outrage as talking heads tried to make sense of what he could have possibly seen on the play that warranted such a call.

Both men made mistakes in critical moments. Both men were subject to incredible amounts of criticism in the wake of their decisions. Both men's names were Trending Topics on Twitter and were the number one search term on Google for a short time following their respective incidents. But the reaction that the two men had to their mistakes could not have

been more different, thus the two men are remembered very differently.

Upon seeing the replay on his blunder Joyce, a 22-year veteran of Major League Baseball umpiring and a man regarded as one of the best in the game, began to weep. He immediately left his locker room and sought out Galarraga. With tears in his eyes he apologized to the pitcher and to Tigers manager Jim Leyland, both of whom graciously forgave him. Joyce then stood up and faced the music as reporters peppered him with questions. He admitted that he blew the call, and said that there was nobody who felt worse about it than he did. Despite the crushing guilt he felt, Joyce answered every question he was asked. The following day he was scheduled to work as the home plate umpire for another Detroit Tigers game, and with the exception of a few scattered shouts, Tiger fans greeted Joyce warmly. He and Galarraga shared a handshake prior to the game. The behavior of both Joyce and Galarraga following the blown call made this one of the great stories of sportsmanship in recent memory.

Coulibaly on the other hand, was scarcely heard from following his blunder. When players on the field asked what the call had been, he did not answer. FIFA referees are not required to publicly comment on their matches, so he didn't. Even several days later when he granted an interview request, he declined the opportunity to discuss the call, or even say what call he had made on the controversial play. He was, in a sense, the anti-Joyce.

On the one hand, I sympathize with Coulibaly's error. If there is one thing I learned from watching the World Cup this year, it is that human beings are not capable of refereeing soccer matches. The task is just too difficult. There is too much to watch. I hate that individuals are put in positions where they have to make split second decisions in front of a television audience of millions of rabid fans that are ready to demonize them for the slightest mistake. However, it is frustrating to see a man make a mistake like that on a stage like that and refuse to own it. The public anger that sports officials are subject to when they make mistakes shows that we, as a society, care about sports entirely too much, but that does not change the fact that the right thing for Coulibaly to do would have been to admit his mistake.

Just weeks after Joyce's blown call ESPN the Magazine conducted an umpiring survey of 100 Major League players. Joyce was voted Best Umpire by an overwhelming margin. I have to imagine that vote is not only a testament to Joyce's stellar work on the field over the years, but also a testament to the courage and integrity that Joyce showed in the worst moment of his career.

The bottom line is that it is much easier to own up to those mistakes we make on the ice than to pretend they never happened, or to make excuses.

Central Region

Sam Campbell, Ajax	Community
Kent Missons, Oshawa	Community
Amy Murray, Sunderland	Community
Tara Armstrong, Oshawa	Regional
Dan Bartley, Ajax	Regional
Kelly Campbell, Ajax	Regional
Janyce Gunn, Oshawa	Regional
Pauline Haarmeyer, Pickering	Regional
Rick Daly, Oshawa	Provincial
Rob Drury, Whitby	Provincial
Karen Meek, Bowmanville	Provincial

Eastern Region

Michelle Bainbridge, Carp	Community
Patricia Burke, Stittsville	Community
Dan Cockburn, Ottawa	Community
David Hanes, Kingston	Community
Marie-Catherine Laframboise, Gloucester	Community
Paul McBride, Ottawa	Community
Brian Sime, Kinburn	Community
Rob Hanson, Cumberland	Regional
Marie Shinmoto, Gloucester	Regional
Nathalie Fortin, Ottawa	Provincial
Laura Knowles, Ottawa	Provincial
Danielle Lalonde-Clarkin, Ottawa	Provincial
Lynne Pillion, Ottawa	Provincial

Northeastern Region

David Bretsznajder, Timmins	Community
Laurier Gadoury, Timmins	Community
Jeff Graham, North Bay	Community
Andre Labelle, Massey	Community
George Seymour, North Bay	Community
Mike Tambeau, Timmins	Community
Harry Hirsimaki, Sudbury	Regional
Wayne Spencer, Sault Ste. Marie	Regional

Southern Region

Marc Brisson, Brantford	Community
Doug Cope, Mississauga	Community
Rob Evans, Richmond Hill	Community
Darcy Hodgson, Cambridge	Community
Geri Lamers, Vaughan	Community
Cam Mahy, Grimsby	Community
Kerri Mahy, Oakville	Community
Lyndsey Matsumura, St. Catharines	Community
Margareth Peressutti, Richmond Hill	Community
Stephanie Renda, Toronto	Community
Pat Turcotte, Caledonia	Regional
Chris Bradt, Hamilton	Provincial
Brent Bunting, Barrie	Provincial
Jeff Evans, Richmond Hill	Provincial
Rick Thomson, St. Catharines	Provincial

Western Region

Andre Brisson, Tillsonburg	Community
Lorie Grant, Kitchener	Community
Denise Pelletier, Kitchener	Community
Lana Phillips, Kitchener	Community
Evan Sharp, Guelph	Community
Steve Blacklock, Guelph	Provincial
Derek Burger, Wellesley	Provincial
Tania Pettitt-Tracey, Wellesley	Provincial

Community level evaluators can evaluate up to 2A, Regional level evaluators may evaluate up to 3A and Provincial level evaluators may evaluate up to 4A.

For information about, or to contact an evaluator, please contact your Regional Coordinator.

