

The

REF-O-GRAM

September 2013



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Ontario Ringette Association's Officiating Newsletter



People used to tell me that the older I would get, the faster that time would pass... I now believe them.

Welcome back everyone! I hope everybody took some time to enjoy the off season and are now ready to get back into stride.

This season promises to be a busy one. It's a "Rule Change Year!" Simply stated, this means that every Instructor and Official must attend a Refresher Clinic, please contact your Regional Coordinator for more information.

The 2013/14 season also presents an Ontario Winter Games cycle, which in addition to the Winter Games (February 26 – March 2, 2014), we will host three Challenge Cups leading up to the main event. Challenge Cups have been awarded to Southern, Northeastern and Western regions. We will continue to have our regular line up of events; Provincial AA – March 6-9, 2014 hosted by Gloucester/Cumberland, Provincial A – March 13-16, 2014 hosted by Kitchener and the U12 Event – April 3-6, 2014 hosted by Sault St. Marie. Finally, from April 17-20, 2014, Mississauga will be showcasing the Eastern Canadian Championships.

The Officiating Development Committee would like to welcome Geri Lamers as the new Southern Region Officiating Coordinator. I know she will be an excellent addition to our committee. Thank you to Bob Huygens for looking after Southern Region during the 2012/13 season.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Provincial Supervisors from last year and the many Evaluators that traveled to a variety of tournaments. Without your dedication and commitment, the officiating program would not be as successful as it is from the grass-roots to national levels.

I can't begin to say "Thank You" enough to the officials that attended the Provincial A and AA championships last year. You were overworked but stepped up and faced the challenge head on. THANK YOU!

This year, G&T has decided to add a third pool to both the U14 and U16 divisions at Provincial A's. This will mean more games and a significant increase in the number of officials required to successfully run this event. This provides an excellent opportunity to brush up on your skills in order to get your name added to the provincial selection list.

The Canadian Ringette Championships were held in Fredericton, NB last April. Ontario sent 12 officials to this event, three of which were new. Congratulations to Chris Faulds, Geri Lamers and Stephanie Renda for doing an excellent job during their first appearance.

Bedford, NS was host to the Eastern Canadian Championships also held in April. Representing Ontario at this event was Alex Hanes, Lyndsey Matsumura and Becky Murray. All three of our officials earned a championship game on Sunday. Congratulations and good luck moving forward with your careers.

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Stephanie Renda as the recipient of the 2012/13 Provincial Official of the Year award. Stephanie has worked hard over the past several seasons earning her 4B ranking last year and a selection to the Canadian Ringette Championships. Well done Stephanie!

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a successful season. Set small goals for yourself and work hard to achieve them.

See you at the rink!

Karen Meek
Chair Officiating Development Committee
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50th ANNIVERSARY OF RINGETTE

2013 marks the 50th season of the sport of Ringette and Ontario is thrilled that celebrations officially kicked off last season in London Ontario with the U19 World Championships and will continue through to the 2013 World Championships being held in North Bay, Ontario, the birthplace of our beloved sport.

Ontario Ringette's 50th Anniversary Committee Members have chosen and produced a 50th anniversary badge to commemorate this amazing time in our sport. They have included a badge for every bunny, player and official and ask that they be sewn onto the upper right sleeve of the player's home jerseys and official jerseys to help celebrate the anniversary.

Western Region

Welcome back to another ringette season! The summer has flown by and it is time to get your skates sharpened and dig out your refereeing equipment.



I want to thank everyone that helped out last year in the Western Region with officiating. So many people stepped up to help out with covering ringette games, taking Fridays off from work to ref at tournaments and giving up time away from their families and friends to referee a sport we all love.

Congratulations to all of the Western officials who participated in the Provincial A's, AA's, U12's and Nationals. You put in the time and effort and worked extra hard to achieve your seasons goals as referees, so congratulations. If your goal this year is to attain a position on the list of eligible officials for Provincials, then you need to travel to some tournaments early in the season in order to be seen. If you are having difficulties getting into a tournament or don't know who to contact, send me an email and I will help you.

A reminder to those of you who are 18 or older, you must have a valid Police Records Check done by November 15th. Police Record checks are only valid for 3 years, so if you are not sure if yours is still valid, either contact your local RIC or the ORA office. Without the PRC, you run the risk of not being eligible for Provincials or Regionals.

Before you are able to get started this year, you must be registered. It is your responsibility to make sure that you either fill out the paper work and mail it in with payment or give it to your local association Referee-in-Chief. Information and details can be found on the ORA web site under Officiating.

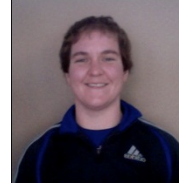
As this is a rule change year, EVERYONE must attend a refresher clinic. If you do not take a refresher clinic you can't referee. Clinic information will be available on the wrra website (www.wrra.ca). Please make sure you register early so you can attend the clinic requested.

It is very important as an official to get evaluated on ice. This will give you important feedback and direction for improvement. As always we will try to have an evaluator at every major event in Western Region. If you are interested in being looked at please contact me and I will try to arrange it.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you on the ice this year. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need some help.

Stay on your feet and have a fantastic ringette season.

Denise Pelletier
 Western Region Coordinator
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Central Region

YEAH, rule changes!! Welcome back everyone – I hope you all had a fabulous summer and are ready to wrap your brains around some changes this season. That's right, it's a rule-change year and everyone will have to take a refresher clinic. Dates will be available through your local RIC, so please check your emails and the ORA website to get information on clinics.



As in past seasons, Central will be assigning an evaluator to each referee. Please take every opportunity to learn from our dedicated evaluators. They have a lot to offer and will do their best to coach you towards becoming a better referee. Remember also that they are not mind readers...you must forward your evaluator your schedule if you would like them to come watch you on the ice. I will send out a list of all evaluators/officials by the end of October.

Referee fees have gone up by \$1.00 this year, making our current registration \$29.00. Registration is due by September 15th, 2013. Make sure you are registered or you cannot referee. If you are over 18, please also make sure that you also have a valid Police Records Check at the ORA before you step onto the ice.

I would now like to congratulate the following officials for their achievements last season; clearly we have much to be proud of here in Central Region:

- Canadian Ringette Championships –Robert Drury, Janyce Gunn, Karen Meek and Sue Shantz
- Eastern Canadian Championships – Lyndsey Matsumura & Becky Murray
- Provincial 'AA' Championships – Sam Campbell, Chris Feher, Melissa Findlay, Janyce Gunn, Lyndsey Matsumura and Becky Murray
- Provincial 'A' Championships – Tara Armstrong, Crystal Blakely, Emma Bragg-Smith, Sam Campbell, Cara Coghlan, Chris Feher, Melissa Findlay, Lyndsey Matsumura, Becky Murray & Sue Shantz
- Regionals – Dan Bartley, Crystal Blakely, Kelly Campbell, Emma D'Arcy, Connor Edmonstone, Emily Lam, Renay Lessay-Searles, Richard Martin,

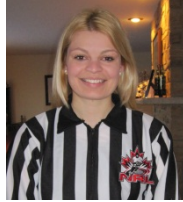
Kent Missons, Breanna Nembhard, Taylor Noel, Bianca Novielli, Michelle Osborne and Izzy Snowden

Finally, I would like to congratulate Bianca Novielli for winning the Laurie White Memorial Award at this year's Regional Championships. Well done, Bianca!

On a final note, please check the ORA website for the 2013-2013 Sanctioned Events List. If there are tournaments you want to attend, apply now to secure your spot!

Enjoy the season!

Amy Murray
Central Region Coordinator
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Eastern Region

Thank you everyone for a great 2012-2013 season! It is our team work that makes it all possible! Everyone is a key to our overall success.



A big thank you to those who were supportive and patient with me in my first year as Officiating Coordinator.

I will reiterate important key points which are crucial to the beginning of each season:

- Ensure you are registered with the ORA as an official; speak with your RIC for deadlines, etc.
- 18yrs & older? Ensure you have a valid Police Record Check. Hint: it is valid for 3years.
- Maintenance evaluations/ Evaluations & Goals: discuss these with your RIC now. Hint: if you required a maintenance evaluation last season, and did not get one, you have until December 15th, 2013.

** The above points are your responsibility. Your RIC is a guide and invaluable resource. Speak with them about any questions or concerns.

It is important that everyone openly discusses their concerns and goals with their RIC. At the beginning of the season it is especially important. I want to see everyone strive further, and would like you to feel that you are supported!

As everyone is aware, this year is a rule change year. As soon as the rule change clinics information becomes available, your RIC's will be in touch with you. It is a requirement that each of us attend a rule change clinic.

Here are some personal achievements attained last season; Great Work!

- 'A' Provincials: Patrick McKee, Marie-Catherine Laframboise, Patricia Burke, Michelle Bainbridge, Rob Hanson, Paul McBride, Brian Sime, Alex Hanes, Natalie Fortin, and Shelley Stairs.
- 'AA' Provincials: Paul McBride, Laura Knowles, Marie Shinmoto, and Rob Hanson.
- Canadian Ringette Championships: Natalie Fortin, Mario Periard.
- Eastern Canadian Championships: Alex Hanes.
- U12 Provincial Event: Stephanie Black, Rob Hanson, and Brian Sime.

ERRA Official of the Year:

- Patricia Burke. Well done Patricia!

Travis Smith did a great job as our ERRA officiating treasurer! Thank you for ensuring we all received our cheques Travis! Just a reminder: please ensure that your telephone number and mailing address is up-to-date in the Arbiter at all times!

A huge thank you to the Arbiter Ladies: Patricia Burke and Michelle Bainbridge. The amount of time and effort you put forth was extremely important in the assigning of games in the Eastern region. Michelle will be leaving her role as one of the infamous Arbiter Ladies; join me in welcoming Kristy Bremer, as she joins Patricia Burke in the assignment duties.

Michelle will be replacing Rob Hanson as NCRRL RIC; a big thank you to Rob for the amount of time and energy you devoted to the role.

Best wishes for a great season ahead!

Shelley Stairs
Eastern Region Coordinator
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Southern Region

Once again we are getting ready for a new and exciting season; hope you had a great summer. My name is Geri Lamers and I'm the new Officiating Coordinator for Southern Region. Although I am new to this position, I have been involved with the sport of ringette for some time. I've been



Referee-in-Chief of Cambridge Ringette, Referee-in-Chief for Richmond Hill and I'm a Regional Evaluator.

I would like to thank Bob Huygens for the very hard work and time he spent on the officiating program as regional coordinator last season.

This season, the region will be offering Refresher clinics for Level 1-2 officials and Level 3-4 officials as well as a Level 1 clinic for new officials. All officials must attend a clinic this season; please contact your local Referee-in-chief to register. Southern hasn't scheduled any clinics yet, so please check the ORA website frequently to keep up to date.

Before you're able to get started this year, you must be registered. It is your responsibility to make sure that you either fill out the paper work and mail it in or have your local association registrar send it in after you've completed it. All of the information and details can be found on the ORA website under officiating.

I would like to thank the Central and Southern officials and also the instructors for a successful level 2/3 clinic held on June 2nd in Richmond Hill.

There are many to congratulate for a well-deserved season last year. Please help me congratulate the following:

- Stephanie Renda (Toronto) for winning the Provincial Official of the Year award
- Doug Cope (Mississauga) for winning the Southern Region Official of the year.
- Gerald Lamoureux (Markham) as he was recognized as a Provincial Builder for his contributions to sport promotion, officiating and coaching over a 40 year span.
- Laura Jacobs (Hamilton) for receiving the Jackie Lajeunesse Scholarships. The Ontario Ringette Association awards two \$1000 scholarship awards each year towards post-secondary education for Ringette players, officials and coaches who have demonstrated a strong academic performance and a commitment to the sport of ringette

I want you all to keep in mind that we are the only paid volunteers in the sport and it is up to us, as officials, to be the best we can when we are on the ice. The only way to learn and get better is by taking clinics, getting feedback from evaluators, supervisors, referee-in-chiefs, other officials and by reading your rule book. Evaluations are a must and should be looked upon as a way of gauging how you are doing. You should not be afraid of evaluations you should be welcoming them. The evaluators are there to help you learn and improve.

Evaluations must be requested, so it is up to you to contact your referee-in-chief or one of the evaluators in the attached list and make arrangements. Tournaments are typically the easiest places to be evaluated at as there should be an evaluator available. For those of you who are Level 1 or 2, you need a maintenance evaluation every two years. Those of you at Level 3 or 4 you need one every year, so don't wait until it's too late. You will be downgraded if you don't get your maintenance evaluation

I hope to have an evaluator out to most of the tournaments in Southern Region this year, make sure your local Referee-in-Chief explains what you can do to get an evaluation. I hope you have a great first half of the season and look forward to seeing you at the rinks!

Once again, we are getting ready for a new and exciting season. I hope you had a great summer.

Have a great season and see you at the rink

Geril Lamers
Southern Region Coordinator
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Northeastern Region

Dave Bretsznajder
Northeastern Region Coordinator
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Evaluations Manager

I'd like to thank all of our Provincial, Regional and Community Evaluators in Ontario who have taken the time to make our officiating development a leader in the country. 34 of our 55 evaluators were active last year, and they submitted in more than 420 forms. With these reviews in hand, 49 officials applied for, and received upgrades. If you are one of those who weren't active evaluating last season, please try to get out to at least one tournament this season. Feedback is always welcome.

The image shows a 'SUPERVISOR'S EVALUATION FORM' with various sections for 'EVALUATOR INFORMATION', 'SUPERVISOR INFORMATION', and 'EVALUATION'. It includes fields for name, title, and a table for performance metrics.

For those receiving evaluations for upgrade or maintenance, please remember to always KEEP YOUR WHITE COPY of any evaluation(s) needed to prove your last upgrade or maintenance. There are a number of ways that the copies can get misplaced, whether by the evaluator, by myself as the manager, or even at the office. Don't be disappointed by relying that the copies have made it successfully into the database. Also, TAKE CONTROL of being evaluated. Look for evaluators at your tournament, and make sure to ask and remind them as to which game(s) are important for you to be seen. An evaluator may be jumping from rink to rink throughout the weekend, so don't assume that they will get to you.

As for the Evaluators, there are a few things to go over, so that our process flows as smoothly as possible. Because many of our officials are working to upgrade, I need to see the electronic copy of your evaluation(s) as soon as possible. You can send in the Evaluations Submission Form to me at evals@shaw.ca. As soon as I receive it, I can then verify that the upgrade request is correct. Otherwise, I have to chase down the evaluator to get the verification.

A good idea for your own reference, is to change the name of the submission form file to something like "PatTurcotteSeptember2013", before sending it in. After I've entered the information into the database, I then forward that copy to the office and to you. Once you've sent in your electronic copy, you need to get the hard copy to me within the 30 day allotment by ORA, for reimbursement. I'm hoping to have a new submission form printed that will provide a different date format (as in 01/JAN/13). Until that happens, please ensure that you enter the correct month and day, as laid out in the form.

I should remind everyone as well, that there must be an acceptable rank for the game seen. All games U12 and below are ranked as 1C. NRC (no recommended change) is not an acceptable ranking. Only 1C through 4A are acceptable rankings.

Have a great on-ice season,

Pat Turcotte
Evaluations Manager
evals@shaw.ca



POD: The Year in Review

The nine POD participants had a very successful year. Congratulations to the second year referees who have completed the program: Crystal Blakley, Taylor Noel and Ashlee Spence.



All participants were committed to the high standards set out for them and worked through the program's requirements: goal setting and monitoring (with their regional coordinators and POD manager), refereeing in two mandatory tournaments (Oshawa and Richmond Hill), officiating in two or more provincial level tournaments of their choice, and completing monthly game logs. Everyone was able to make significant improvements throughout the season, with nearly all first year POD's earning their 2B upgrades by season's end.

The season's highlight was that all available PODs participated in the U12 Provincial Event hosted in Oshawa. Eight other deserving referees also joined them. Just like all other provincial events officials were provided with feedback after each assignment from their rink supervisors. The crew rose to the occasion, constantly improving their approaches to the games, so that they could effectively work with their partners and provide the highest of standards while on the ice to the participants. When off-ice they also had a great time getting to know each other, culminating in a costume-clad car rally around Oshawa.

This upcoming season will offer the six returning PODs an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership with the new recruits. The newest PODs will have a chance to get lots of feedback and reflect on it to improve their game management and skills.

If you would like more information about the POD program, please speak to your regional coordinator.

Tara Armstrong
POD Manager
tara.armstrong@rogers.com



Taking a Step Back

There comes a time in everyone's life to take a step back, slow down and move on to different things. For Laura Knowles, this is exactly what she has decided to do.

For the past 30 years, Laura has been involved with ringette in one capacity or another. She began her journey in Vancouver, British Columbia where she started to play and later referee. As she grew with the sport, she began to take on new roles. She became an Instructor and an Evaluator expanding her skills and knowledge. To our benefit, Laura has had the opportunity to spend time in a number of Provinces sharing her experience and leadership qualities. She has resided in British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Alberta, and has now found her home in Ontario.



Moving through the system, she became a Level 5 Official, a Master Instructor and a Provincial Evaluator. She has attended numerous Canadian Ringette Championships as an Official, Supervisor and the Director of Officials. She has taken part at the Canada Winter Games both as an Official and Supervisor and was the Director of Officials for the 2012 World Junior Ringette Championships. With Ringette Canada, she served a term as Second Vice-President Technical and has just completed a four year term as the Director of Officials.

Laura has been instrumental in the development of officiating from the grass roots to elite levels and has played a large role in the development of some of our finest officials. She is an "Attention to Detail" person who has brought structure to our program.

Laura has many nicknames including "Knowles" and "Cannoli." But for those of us in Ontario, she will be affectionately remembered as the "Binder B!@€#" A term derived from those officials that have had the good fortune of receiving her thorough evaluation. Although she's had more than most officials terrified and intimidated, we've all certainly gained valuable insights from her wealth of ringette knowledge.

We're not sure where your path is headed, but we wish you well, wherever it takes you!

Stephanie Renda Recieves 2012/13 Provincial Official of the Year Award

Stephanie started officiating in 1991 at the age of 14 in Thunder Bay. It didn't take her long to acknowledge and make good use of the Officiating Outreach Budget to travel to

tournaments in Southern Ontario. As she developed, she was asked to join the POD program where she gained valuable knowledge, experience and exposure.

Since graduating from the POD program, she has officiated at both A and AA Provincials. She has had the opportunity to attend the Eastern Canadian Championships in PEI in 2010 and has just made her first appearance at the Canadian Ringette Championships in NB.



Stephanie is a two time recipient of the Northwest Regional Official of the Year award and was the first official to attend Provincials from that region.

Stephanie is a hardworking and dedicated official who devotes a vast majority of her time to officiating. Congratulations Steph!

2013 Eastern Canadian Ringette Championships

"The strength & confidence they have from working with experienced officials at home was obvious to me." - Lucie Anne Ingoldsby, Director of Officials ECRC

Becky Murray

It was truly honoured to have been selected to represent Ontario as one of the referees at the ECRC this year! It was an unforgettable and very rewarding experience! The ringette was amazing, my fellow referees were great to work with, the supervisors provided great feedback, and the host committee made us all feel at home! I got to referee 12 games, with 8 different partners, all which were live streamed! I learned so much and made many new friends!

Lyndsey Matsumura

An Opportunity I couldn't Pass up....

I am not one for last minute plans nor am I a spur of the moment decision maker. I have always been a planner and well organized. However, that theory kind of went through the door when two days before the Eastern Canadian Ringette Championships were set to start, I had one spur of the moment decision that I just couldn't pass up.

I have officiated at both AA and A's for the last few years and the next logical step (in my mind) was Eastern's. After provincials ended, I had put away my reffing gear as another season had come to an end. Ontario was being represented by two outstanding officials, Becky Murray and Alex Hanes. I couldn't have been happier for Becky and Alex and I thought to myself "there is always next year". That all changed when I received an email from Karen with the subject line: "Eastern Canadian Championships". At first I wasn't sure what to think, but the more I read, the more excited/nervous/overwhelmed I became. My initial thoughts were how do I get the time off work when I literally just flew back from Florida and had only been at work for one day. I knew this was one opportunity I just had to embrace. I didn't have much time to think...and before I knew it my mind was made up. I was on route to Halifax.



As this was my first out of province tournament, I was not sure what to expect and I didn't have a lot of time to prepare. As always, it was nice to get the first game under my belt. Our schedules each day were packed with a variety of games, teams and partners. The games were exciting and the opportunity to officiate with officials from other provinces was a great learning experience.

Attending Eastern's was an experience I was truly grateful to be a part of. I am glad that: 1) I saw Karen's email, 2) I read it and 3) I accepted. Even though I prefer receiving ample time to make decisions and plan for events, this was one experience I am so glad I accepted.

Alex Hanes

Travelling to Bedford for the ECRC's was an amazing experience! Having the opportunity to officiate games with referees from other provinces was a real treat! The supervisor team and host committee were accommodating and provided great support throughout the event. All the teams played with passion and many games in each division were very close

finishes - on Sunday three of the five finals went into overtime!

Once again I was overwhelmed by the community that exists around Ringette, especially among refs! It's a cool experience to travel halfway across the country and feel immediately bonded to other brave souls who dress in stripes! The friendships that are formed on and around the ice are friendships that last lifetimes!

Bench Penalties and Dealing with Coaches

Taken from Kerry Fraser's Blog on tsn.ca

There was an incident in the Calgary-Vancouver game on Sunday in which the Canucks were issued an unsportsmanlike bench minor with only eight minutes left in the game and a 2-2 tie. Canucks coach Alain Vigneault was apparently unhappy with what was perceived as a missed elbow call and proceeded to stand on the bench and voice his displeasure, indicating "That was an elbow."

According to reporters and players, there was no profanity yelled and no previous warning given to the bench by the referee.

As a long-time NHL referee, you have probably had numerous instances in which a coach has given you an earful for a perceived missed call. Were there certain times during the game, or a certain way things were said (standing on the bench) that would push you towards assessing a bench minor? Would you allow more leniency to a player or a coach in that situation?

*Regards,
Bob
Winnipeg*

Bob,

When a coach stands up on the dasher boards/players' bench and demeans an official by shouting, waving his arms or demonstrates a penalty signal in protest of a non-call (even with the absence of profanity), it is most likely that a bench penalty will be assessed by the referee, as opposed to issuing the coach a warning. This was the case on Sunday when Alain Vigneault was overzealous and theatrical in his protest of what he felt was an elbow delivered by Matt Stajan to the head of Vancouver defenceman Christopher Tanev.

Each game situation is unique, as are the personalities of the individuals involved. Working relationships are forged over time between every referee and coach; some are positive while others are just tolerable. The specific manner with which a coach voices or displays his displeasure for a referee's decision, combined with an official's tolerance level, will dictate the response and eventual outcome.

If I knew for sure, or even thought I might have erred on a call, I would be much more tolerant of a coach's protest. At a stoppage of play, I would approach the bench and admit wrongdoing in a sincere attempt to diffuse the situation and restore a level of professional decorum to avoid assessing a bench penalty.

There were times when the actions of a coach were so over the top that my only approach was to assess a bench penalty followed by a "warning" that I would remove the coach from the bench (ejection from the game) if he persisted in any further abusive conduct. Let me offer some examples, some of which appeared in my book, *The Final Call*.

Bryan Murray was coaching the Washington Capitals and demonstrated a very fiery personality behind the bench. Bryan was sometimes seen standing up on the dasher boards in front of his players, screaming at the referee. Coach Murray was leading the league in bench penalties. One game in the Cap Center, Bryan stood on the dasher boards and started flapping his arms in protest at me. Since bench penalties didn't appear to be altering his behavior, I thought I would attempt a different approach by initiating a conversation with the coach. When I approached Bryan, he was wired. I extended my hands with palms open in a calming gesture of peace and spoke in a direct but monotone voice. I asked that he please calm himself and get down off the bench so I might explain to him the reason for my call. Bryan Murray did as I asked.

I started the conversation by saying, "You might not agree with what I have to say but..." and explained my perspective on the play. Bryan listened thoughtfully and then very respectfully replied, "Kerry, you're right about one thing. I don't agree with your decision but thank you very much for coming over and explaining it to me." All Bryan Murray wanted was an explanation. The coach recognized that I was approachable when he demonstrated an acceptable decorum. From that night on, we established a very positive professional relationship; even when we didn't agree.

Al Arbour, coach of the NY Islanders, demonstrated tremendous discipline behind the bench. His players fed off their coach's demeanor and took very few unnecessary penalties. Arbour seldom yelled at the referee so when he did, I knew I probably had missed something. One night in the Chicago Stadium in 1983, I heard his voice just 10 minutes into the game. It gave me a wake-up call I desperately needed, because my head was clearly up my butt. I was in a total fog from the opening puck drop and couldn't seem to pull myself out of it. After the fourth penalty I assessed the visiting Islanders in the first ten minutes, Arbour stood at the open door of his players' bench and yelled at me, "Kerry, get over here!" I had such respect for him that I skated over with my head down, ashamed of my performance to this point. I felt like a little kid standing in front of the school principal. In obvious frustration, Al said, "Kerry, what the hell are you doing out here tonight?"

I responded, still with my head down, "I don't know Al. I'm really struggling tonight and don't know what's wrong with me." Finally I raised my eyes to see this coaching icon scratching his head and staring back at me with lips pressed together. Then he said, "Well, get the hell out there and try harder," as if admonishing one of his players. Like a child who had just been scolded by his father, I responded, contritely and meekly, "Okay, Al, I'll do my best."

Respect must be earned—not demanded.

Current Montreal Canadiens head coach Michel Therrien received a bench minor penalty in his first stint as coach of the Habs from me in Game Four of their Conference Semi-final series with the Carolina Hurricanes in 2002. Therrien did pretty much the same thing as Vigneault on Sunday. Michel had received a warning of sorts to cool his antics behind the bench when he was fined \$30,000 by Colin Campbell for his throat-cutting gesture to Kyle McLaren of the Boston Bruins in the previous series following his elbow to Richard Zednik.

Midway through the third period of Game Four against the Canes, with the Canadiens leading in the game and poised to take a commanding lead in the series I called an obvious cross-checking penalty on Stephane Quintal for blasting a Cane player into the Habs net from behind. As I stood at the referee's crease assessing the penalty, I heard Therrien yell at me from 100 feet away. As I turned, I could see the coach standing on the dasher boards. It was impossible to not see the coach impeccably dressed in a bright yellow sports jacket resembling a large bumble bee. The coach waved his arms and shouted, "Kerry, what the F____?"

I felt it prudent to give him a second chance to amend his method of protest so I pointed to my chest and mouthed, "Are you talking to me?" Therrien nodded his head in affirmation and then repeated himself, "Yeah, what the F____?"

It was a costly bench penalty for the coach to take and one which turned the game and series around. Carolina scored two goals on the ensuing two-man advantage, tied the game up and won it in overtime with a goal from my TSN colleague, Aaron Ward. Carolina won the remaining games and the series, 4-2.

Therrien is doing an excellent job this season behind the Canadiens bench and has earned the respect of his players as well as the officials for his decorum behind the bench, not to mention his more conservative dress code.

Take a lesson Alain. Bench penalties can sometimes be game changers.

Random Reminders

1. Anyone 18 years of age or older, must have a valid Police Records Check by November 15.
2. Registration is due by September 15 or before stepping on the ice.
3. Applications for the Outreach or National Scouting Program funding are due by October 31.
4. In order to upgrade, you **MUST** fill out an on-line "Upgrade Form" and send it to the Evaluations Manager (Pat Turcotte). This applies for all levels.
5. Every Official and Instructor must take a Refresher Clinic this season.

2013/2014 Major Events

Oct 25-27	AAA Challenge Cup – Southern Region
Nov 29-Dec 1	AAA Challenge Cup - Sudbury
Dec 29-Jan 4	World Ringette Championships – North Bay
Jan 17-19	AAA Challenge Cup – St. Mary's
Feb 26-Mar 2	Ontario Winter Games – Bala/Muskoka
Mar 6-9	Provincial AA Championships - Gloucester
Apr 3-6	U12 Provincial Event – Sault Ste. Marie
Apr 7-12	Canadian Ringette Championships – Regina
Apr 17-20	Eastern Canadian Ringette Championships - Mississauga

Ringette U12 Provincials April 11-14, 2013 Oshawa, ON



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Central Region

Sam Campbell, Ajax	Community
Lyndsey Matsumura, Whitby	Community
Amy Murray, Sunderland	Community
Tara Armstrong, Oshawa	Regional
Dan Bartley, Ajax	Regional
Kelly Campbell, Ajax	Regional
Janyce Gunn, 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

Northeastern Region

David Bretsznajder, Timmins	Community
Andre Labelle, Massey	Community
Harry Hirsimaki, Sudbury	Regional
George Seymour, North Bay	Regional
Wayne Spencer, Sault Ste. Marie	Regional

Southern Region

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

Western Region

Evan Sharp, Guelph	Community
Andre Brisson, Tillsonburg	Regional
Lorie Grant, Kitchener	Regional
Denise Pelletier, Kitchener	Regional
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.

