

Ref-O-Gram

Fall 2003

Officiating Development Chairman's Report

Welcome to the 2003-2004 ringette season. This season will prove to be one of the busiest the officiating program has seen in many years. Ontario is hosting three Challenge Cups in North Bay, Pickering and Kingston, the Ontario Winter Games in London, AA and A Provincial Championships in Richmond Hill and Valley East, respectively, and the Eastern Canadian Tween Championships in Thunder Bay. These many high-level events, as well as other invitational tournaments, will keep our members busy throughout the season. It is hoped that the Challenge Cups in Pickering and Kingston will be run in conjunction with the tournaments and used as a scouting event, as was the Challenge Cup in Mississauga last year. Several new officials were identified there for the Provincial Championship, and were successful at this event and at the Provincials.

Thanks and congratulations to the officials who worked the Provincial A & AA Championships, the Adult Championships and the National Championships.

An evaluator's clinic is scheduled for November 21-23, 2003 during the Nepean Tournament. Both Regional and Community levels are being offered. It is hoped that this clinic will provide 4 new regional evaluators and about 15 new community evaluators.

A payment plan has been put into place for evaluations this season. Our committee will pay \$15.00 for each evaluation (with assigned rank) to the certified evaluators (not local referees-in-chief). It is hoped that this will provide some incentive for evaluators to step off the ice for some events and just concentrate on evaluations. It is the first season for such a concept, and the hope is that it will help generate more evaluations on a Province-wide basis. Make sure you make your regional co-ordinator aware of your desire to be evaluated. Make calls and contacts and get into tournaments. It is at these events that you stand the greatest chance of being "discovered".

A great deal of work was done on the Field Report during the August Standing Committee meetings. Each official's rank was looked at to ensure that it agreed with the information on the Field Report. Be aware, however, that some of last season's evaluations have not been entered in the system yet. We hope that by the middle of December all clinic information and evaluations will be on the report and it will be accurate. After all this work, I hope it is.

The mailing of this Ref-O-Gram is later than in the past number of seasons to allow the inclusion of your current Official's Membership Card. If you hear of referees who haven't received this Ref-O-Gram or their card, suggest that they check that they've been registered by their local association or that they've registered as an independant.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to the Officiating Development Committee of Karen Meek (Central), Nat Fortin (East), Carole Liscombe (South), Steph Renda (Northwest), Bill Kaiser (West) and Marc Brisson (Northwest) for their continued support. A special congrats to Nat Fortin as last year's Provincial Official of the Year, the latest Ontario referee to officiate at the Nationals.

Take care to all and have a great season.

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Editor's Note:

While watching the World Series, were you like me? Did you think the Chair of the ORA Officiating Development Committee was moonlighting by pitching for the Florida Marlins using the name Brad Penny? ***TM***

Regional Information

Regional Officiating Co-ordinators

Central	<i>Karen Meek 705:953-9271 meek.shantz@sympatico.ca</i>
Eastern	<i>Natalie Fortin 613:446-4188 Cell 613:443-4460 ripfortin@hotmail.com</i>
North East	<i>Marc Brisson 705:969-7922 kanada3_eh@hotmail.com</i>
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Southern	<i>Carol Liscombe 905:768-5911 carol.liscombe@sympatico.ca</i>
Western	<i>Bill Kaiser 519:269-1116 Cell 519:503-4828 officiating@wrra.ca</i>



Eastern Region

Hello, everyone. I hope you all had a great summer. I am pleased to accept the position of Eastern Region Co-ordinator and am ready for the challenges that lie ahead. On behalf of all the referees in the region I would like to thank Mario Periard for 7 years of hard work and dedication as our Co-ordinator. Mario will continue to help us as tournament scheduler. See our website, www.erra.ncrrl.on.ca, and follow the prompt to "Officials" if you want to ref at our tournaments.

Congratulations to Monique Arsenault for being selected Regional Official of the year. And thanks to Laura Knowles for taking on the role of Evaluation Co-ordinator.

This season we will again be using a Regional Scheduler. I believe that this program will be successful and will give our Referees-in-Chief the opportunity to concentrate on the development of their local officials. I can't wait to see you all around the rink. Have a great season!

Natalie Fortin, 613: 443-4460

Southern Region

Another ringette season is upon us and lots of new things are happening in our Region. Officiating Co-ordinator Carol Liscombe has formed a regional officiating committee of Kim Vanschoonhoven, Jeff Evans and herself. The committee will try to have someone at each tournament in our region.

If any referees from within the region want to officiate at our Regionals, they must referee at a Southern region tournament. So if you want to work the Regionals, please let your Referee-in-Chief know and get yourself booked into a tournament.

Also new to Southern region is a web page. At <http://www.srra.net> you can get answers, see photos and get more information about what's going on in the region. Have a stellar season from the Southern region officiating committee.

Carol Liscombe, 905: 768-5911

Western Region

Welcome to the 2003- 2004 Ringette Season. Let me introduce myself. I am Bill Kaiser, your Western Region Officiating Co-ordinator. I have been involved with Ringette for almost 20 years as an official, evaluator and instructor for the officiating program. I have participated at both the Regional and Provincial Levels of Ringette and look forward to doing my best to serve Western Region throughout the season.

Congratulations to our 2003 Regional Official of the Year, Warren Gethke. His dedicated participation for the last several years in the Mitchell and surrounding area is well deserving of this award.

To all the Officials that participated at Regionals, Provincial Prelims, and Provincials I extend a thank you for all your hard work over all of the events.

Jeff Clark, our outgoing Officiating Co-ordinator, has decided it is now time to pursue his other Interests. Thanks, Jeff, for your years of dedication and service to the sport of Ringette and to Western Region in general. You will be missed.

Now onto the 2004 Season. All officials, new and old, need to work to obtaining evaluations for this season. To this end, Western Region will be sending 6 participants to the Evaluators' Clinic in Nepean. These new evaluators will begin to get out to Tournaments starting in December to assist in this process. Remember, it is YOUR responsibility as an official to obtain an evaluation to maintain your rank.

Local Referees-in-Chief are reminded that their schedules and list of officials for their respective tournaments should be in my hands **no more than 3 weeks before your event**. This will enable me to review all assignments and work towards ensuring an evaluator may be present for sometime during the event.

I look forward to this season and hope to make it as problem-free as possible. I am available for all questions from any official or RIC. I can be reached

via e-mail and telephone, and ask that if you need to get hold of me after 9 pm, please use the e-mail address below.

Bill Kaiser, 519: 269-1116
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Evaluations, an ongoing process

Ideally, officials should be evaluated every game. And they are, informally, by players, coaches & spectators.

“Every move a referee makes is scrutinized – and often criticized... Officiating is the only job where everyone expects you to be perfect the first time and improve thereafter.”

*Elmer Rosenberg, “Two Minutes for Flailing”
 Maclean’s Magazine, October 13/03*

Given the number of evaluators and referees in Ontario, one evaluation a season for each official is sometimes difficult. A few years ago, the requirements to maintain a Level 1 or 2 ranking were changed. These officials must obtain a maintenance or upgrade evaluation at least every second year. Level 3 & 4 referees still need to get a maintenance or upgrade evaluation annually.

Officials wanting to be evaluated should let their local referee-in-chief know, so that appropriate games may be scheduled with an evaluator available. Tournaments are even better for being evaluated as you may be seen in a range of games and get tips for improvement which you can work on that same weekend.

Some officials seem to look on an evaluation as a test, to be tried when you think you’re ready to be upgraded. Sort of like trying to pass a driver’s test. But your chances of improving and being upgraded are better if you can get an idea of where you can improve your game as a referee. Instead of just a test to be passed, an evaluation should be a learning experience. You may think you’re ready to be upgraded, but a qualified evaluator may see areas in your performance that you should work on, based on their experience, training and comparisons with other officials.

Local referees-in-chief should look at their scheduling as a chance to develop their own referees by stretching them, if possible. One way would be to put a referee who’s taken the Level 2/3 clinic on ice with a stronger referee who can carry the game, if necessary, allowing the newer referee to experience what it’s like to be in a faster, higher-calibre game.

Evaluators, new and used

Congratulations to the new Community evaluators who attended the clinic held during the recent Nepean tournament. They’re included in the enclosed list of evaluators.

Evaluators who have attended a Regional/Provincial clinic will advance when they complete their practical requirements.

Bill McCreary, NHL referee:

A good official keeps his emotions in check. He doesn't allow the emotions of a coach or player to filter into his own emotions. The more you keep your emotions in check, the better chance you have of doing a good job.

Before you throw the envelope away, take out your membership card!

“And the winners are...”

Jane Larkworthy was named to the Ringette Canada Hall of Fame in April.

Ed Miles and Al & Debbie Fletcher joined the Ontario Ringette Hall of Fame as Provincial Builders

Doug MacQuarrie won the Gord Trivett Memorial Trophy as Ottawa's sports volunteer of the year, after two tries by organizers of the city's amateur sports awards dinner. Here's an excerpt from the Ottawa Citizen of April 3, 2003:

Dinner organizers wanted to present the long-standing ringette referee the award last year, but he was unable to attend because of commitments to his oldtimers hockey team. But MacQuarrie made the ultimate sacrifice last night by passing up a hockey game to receive his honour. Organizers, however, broke tradition and told him he was receiving the award to get him to the dinner.

MacQuarrie was named to the Ringette Canada Hall of Fame in 2002 for more than 30 years of officiating. He was inducted into the Ontario Ringette Hall of Fame in 1993 as a builder, officiated the first world championship in 1990 in Gloucester and was provincial official of the year in 1988.

Overheard at the rink

“Gee, ref, did you know that your eyeliner matches the colour of our sweaters?”

“I got delayed and thought this game would be over by now. Been a lot of injuries?”

“No more than you'd expect in any contact sport.”

Petite C coach to his bench during a game, “Who knows the rules?”

The same coach, when told by a ref that his team had to change on the fly during a goalkeeper ring, “OK, we haven't got that far yet.”

Penalized player: This is silly; you refs call everything!

Ref: Might be a good idea to stop doing 'everything'.

Player: But we're used to it. We get away with it at home.

Where's my Ref-O-Gram?

Please remember to advise the ORA if you move.

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Maybe ringette got more exposure in the comics than the sports section

The comic strip "Betty" recently ran a two-week series of cartoons about finding a coach for a Ladies Ringette team. You can check out the first strip at www.comics.com/comics/betty/archive/betty-20031020.html

The Agnes Jacks Scholarships

Ringette Canada awards a number of \$1,000 scholarships each year towards post-secondary education for ringette players, coaches and officials with a strong academic performance and a commitment to ringette. The deadline for the 2004-2005 academic year is January 31, 2004.

Get more details and application forms from the ORA or Ringette Canada offices or from the Ringette Canada website at www.ringette.ca.

New Goalie Helmets and Cages

CSA has certified 2 new goalie helmets for ringette made by the Oldfield Sports Group, the *Olie MR9900* and the *Olie MR5500*. The MR5500, may be painted, but only by the manufacturer.

The Oldfield goalie cages certified are the *ACR9000* (black or white) and the *ACR9200* (chrome) and only for use with the two newly-certified helmets, not with any other helmets.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

1. The Model MA2000 Oldfield goalie helmet is not certified for ringette. This helmet has triangular ventilation holes, while the approved helmets have round holes.
2. The painting of any helmet for ringette, for a goalie or for other players, voids its certification unless it's painted by the manufacturer.

For further details see the Membership Notice on the ORA website or the Ringette Canada website.

Quote...Unquote

"There is nothing in the whole world so painful as feeling that one is not liked. It always seems to me that people who hate me must be suffering from some strange form of lunacy."

Sei Shonagon (circa 966-1013)

(Too long ago to have been a ringette referee. Maybe he officiated some other sport. **TM**)

It happened at the AA Provincials...

During the warmup, a new timekeeper was trying out the various scoreboard controls and forgot to wipe out a penalty he'd recorded for #12 on the home team. After the teams finished their cheers, #12 skated to the penalty box.

Referee: What are you doing here?

Player: I have a penalty.

Referee: What for?

Player: I don't know!

Disa & Data

Of the sixteen referees at the 2003 Canadian Ringette Championships in Waterloo, eight were from Ontario; three of the six assignments in the championship games were handled by Ontario referees... With protective mesh in many arenas the fling-a-ring may be a fundraiser of the past... The 2004 Provincial AA Championships will be hosted by Valley East, March 4-7... London will be the site of the 2004 Ontario Winter Games, with ringette scheduled March 11-14... The Provincial A Championships are set for March 25-28 in Richmond Hill... The Canadian Ringette Championships will start in Calgary in late March... The 2004 Adult Provincials are scheduled for April 1-4, venue to be announced... Thunder Bay hosts the Eastern Canadian Tween Championships, April 1-4... See details of these and other events in the list of Sanctioned Tournaments on the ORA website, www.ontario-ringette.com.

"The times, they are a-changing..."

At the first Ontario Championships in 1975, referee-in-chief Ed Miles insisted that each region bring at least one female referee.

At the 2003 A Championships, the 16 referees were evenly divided, male and female. The AA refereeing crew was composed of 12 male referees and 9 female referees. And at the 2003 Nationals, female referees outnumbered the guys for the first time, 10 to 6, with 5 of the 8 Ontario referees being female.

Comments or suggestions for the Ref-O-Gram?

Please contact

**Derek Burger, Officiating Committee Chairman
or Ted Moritsugu, Ref-O-Gram Editor, c/o ORA**
