

Ref-O-Gram

September 1999

Chair's Report

Welcome back to another Ringette Season - Y2K Ringette (we have to keep up with the times). I hope everyone has had a good summer, because this season looks like it will be very busy.

Before I get into details of the upcoming season, I would like to acknowledge and thank a number of individuals. First, our editor, Ted Moritsugu. Last year Ted did an excellent job of putting together the Ref-O-Gram. We thank him for his efforts and, even more, we thank him for continuing this year.... Thanks, Ted!

Steve Moritsugu did a great job as the Ringette Canada Officiating Committee liaison with Ontario for the last 2 years. Steve is not returning to the position this season due to work obligations; he's in the military and was transferred to New Brunswick. Steve is also a Provincial evaluator, an instructor and a Level 4A official and he will be missed.

Steve Blacklock has been named as the new liaison. Steve is also a Provincial evaluator and a 4A official; I know he will do an excellent job with his commitment to the sport and his experience at the National level.

There have been a number of changes on our officiating committee this year. Last year, the position of officiating coordinator in the Western Region was vacant. Jeff Clark, who helped out in the region last year, now takes over the coordinator's position.

Northeastern Region also has a new officiating coordinator, Dennis Laverdiere, who succeeds Pauline Haarmeyer. Pauline has done an excellent job for the region over the last few years and, fortunately, she will continue to officiate, evaluate and instruct. Dennis has been here before; this time, he brings Ken Lajeunesse, a newcomer to committee life, as an assistant.

I welcome all the newcomers and thank them and the returning coordinators (Carol Liscombe - Southern, Karen Meek - Central, Mario Periard - Eastern and Mary-Kay Migay - Northwestern) for their commitment to the officiating program at every level.

Rule Change Year

What does this mean to you?

- It means you WILL be attending a clinic regardless of your current rank.

Which clinic do you attend?

- ALL Level 1 and new officials MUST attend a Level 1 clinic (If you have attended a Level 2/3 clinic but do not have 2 evaluations at Level 2, you MUST attend a Level 1 clinic).
- ALL others, from Level 2 through Level 4, MUST attend a refresher clinic

FYI: You're not alone; all instructors must attend an instructors' clinic and there are mandatory rules clinics for bench staff.

Available clinic dates will be included in this Ref-O-Gram, so make plans NOW to attend the appropriate clinic. If you can't attend a clinic in your region, you may attend one in another region, but let the coordinators know.

Rule Change Year also means new rule books and new case books. Make sure you read the new rule book; it has been completely revamped and I believe you will find it much more "user-friendly". I also recommend that everyone purchase a case book which has also undergone a major facelift.

While the rule books will be at the clinics, the case books may be a little late. If you can't get a case book at a clinic, let your ref-in-chief know so an order may be placed with the regional coordinator.

Evaluations

Nothing has changed; last year's maintenance is due by December 15th, 1999. If you don't have a maintenance from last year, make sure you get to an early tournament and make sure the evaluator knows you need the evaluation for last year's maintenance.

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Chair's Report (continued)

Every year I go on about going to tournaments to get evaluations, and it seems to be working. The number of evaluations last year increased over the year before and we had significant movement of officials to new ranks. I know how difficult it can be to get evaluations, especially at Levels 3 & 4; be persistent. I realize it can be discouraging and so does the committee and we are doing things to make it easier.

We were generally pleased with the evaluation program last year (getting evaluators to tournaments). This year we would like to increase that attendance even more.

Enclosed you will find a tournament schedule. Based on feedback from last year, I recommend that you plan your tournaments early and call well in advance to get your name to the tournament ref-in-chief. More and more officials are trying tournaments, as we recommend, and they are enjoying the experience. Don't delay, make your calls, and confirm 2-3 weeks before the tournament.

When I mentioned that this season would be busy, I meant the tournament schedule. As well as the regular provincial events, ringette will be played at the Ontario Winter Games (OWGs) in Sault Ste. Marie. There will also be two challenge cups in which the regional rep teams will participate, in conjunction with the London and West Ferris invitational tournaments.

The timing of the OWGs in March will complicate things as ringette there will go head-to-head with the Provincial A Championships and the day after the Provincial AA Championships.

Due to this, the Belle divisions for the AA and A Provincial Championships will be held during the Gloucester tournament in February rather than with the other divisions in March. As I said, a busy year.

I will try to get to as many tournaments as my work schedule will allow. Last year I enjoyed seeing a lot of new faces and I hope to see even more this season. So, until I see you at one of those tournaments, make your tournament plans, make your calls and, remember, most important of all: HAVE FUN!!

Chris Bradt 905: 544-9209

Overheard

by a ref waiting to signal "all clear" near the team benches during a Tween C game:

Player 1: "These are the best refs we've ever had!"

Player 2: "Yeah, I wish we had them all the time."

Player 3: "Ouch! What? Oh yeah, the refs are excellent!"

Player 1: "Aw, he's grinning.... I think he caught on."

Regional Information

Southern Region Clinics

<u>Level 1</u>	Sat., October 30	Richmond Hill
	Sat., November 6	Cambridge
	Sat., November 27	Hagersville

<u>Refresher</u>	Sat., November 13/20	Burlington
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Carol Liscombe (905) 768-5911

Central Region

As summer draws to an end, it's time to start thinking about ringette. Here are just a few of the questions you should be asking yourself:

- Where will I register?
- What tournaments do I plan to attend?
- What clinics are available to me?
- Who is around to evaluate me?
- Do I wish to work on an upgrade, or continue at the same level?

There will not be any upgrade clinics this season, but newcomers are welcome at the Level 1 clinics. Clinic dates and locations are as follows:

Refresher, for Level 2Cs and above

Sat., Oct. 2	9am-1pm	Ice Sports - Oshawa
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Level 1

Sat., Oct. 23	9am-5pm	Pickering Police Station
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Sat., Nov. 6	9am-5pm	Ice Sports - Oshawa
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Sat., Nov. 13	9am-5pm	Port Perry Hospital
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Evaluators in our region are:

Janyce Gunn	905: 725-3402
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Kelly Campbell	905: 427-8047
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Karen Meek	705: 953-9271
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Gord Cogdale	705: 292-5577
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Central region will be trying something new this season: a mentor program. A few officials will be selected to work closely with a senior official to improve their skills.

In our region, most of our referees are at the lower levels and very few are moving up through the system. We hope that the mentor program will start to alleviate some of our concerns.

Do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns, or ask one of our senior officials; they're a good source of knowledge.

Have a good season. Call if you have any concerns, and we'll see you around the arenas.

Karen Meek (705) 953-9271

Regional Information (continued)

Eastern Region

I'm sure you all know that this is a rule change year, meaning you will have to attend a clinic. All Level 1 and new officials must attend a Level 1 clinic. Level 2s and higher must attend a Refresher clinic. Here is a tentative list of clinics for this year.

Level 1

Sun., Oct. 3, 9am-5pm Nepean; Walter Baker Arena
Sat., Oct. 9 Gloucester
Sun., Oct. 17 Kingston
Sat., Oct. 23, 10am-6pm Pembroke Arena
Sun., Nov. 7 Goulbourn

Refresher

Wed., October 6 Ottawa
Thur., October 14 Cumberland

If you're not sure of your carded level, ask your referee-in-chief.

Congratulations to Belinda Bertrand and Danielle Lalonde for achieving the 4C level. Honours also go to Lynne Phillion, Rob Hanson, Cindy Roy and Natalie Fortin for completing the Level 4 clinic. I'm positive that it will only be a matter of time before you become Level 4 officials.

Have a great season and have fun.

Mario Periard

**Home: (613) 446-5009 Work: (613) 446-5896
Cellular: (613) 277-6197 with answering machine**

North West Region

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Mary-Kay Migay (807) 767-7814

Western Region

Welcome back to another exciting season of ringette. This year promises to be full of new challenges, friendly faces and, of course, cold arenas.

This is a rule change year, which means that **all officials will have to attend a clinic this season.**

There are no exceptions to this rule. Please be sure that you are registered in either a Level 1 clinic or a refresher clinic.

If you are a new official or a Level 1 official, you must attend a Level 1 clinic. If you are a Level 2, 3 or 4 official, you must attend a refresher clinic. A Level 2 official has attended and passed a Level 2/3 clinic and has received at least two Level 2 evaluations before this season.

Level 1

Sat., October 2 Kitchener
Sun., October 3 Waterloo
Sat., October 16 Walkerton
Sun., October 17 Stratford
Sat., October 23 Forest
Sun., October 24 London

Refresher

Sat., October 23 London
Sun., October 24 Waterloo

if you have any questions or concerns or want to register for a clinic, please call me.

Jeff Clark (519) 642-0564

North East Region

Well, here we are again. I hope you all had a great, relaxing summer and are ready to hit the ice again.

Special congratulations to Kevin Bradley for receiving last season's Regional Referee Recognition Award.

Officiating clinics in our region are scheduled as follows:

Level 1 Sat., Oct. 16 9:00 am
Kapuskasing
Sun., Oct. 17 9:00 am Timmins
Sun., Oct. 24 9:00 am Sudbury
Sun., Nov. 7 9:00 am Rayside-Balfour
Sun., Nov. 14 10:00 am Sault Ste. Marie
Sun., Nov. 21 10:00 am West Ferris

Refresher Sun., Nov. 21 10:00 am Sudbury

Should you have any concerns, questions about evaluations, officiating at tournaments or how to move through the system, please call either of us.

Have a good season and have fun. See you around the arenas.

About Clinics, in case you haven't
been paying attention

- All officials must attend a clinic this fall.
- You'll get a rule book at the clinic.
- We recommend that you buy a case book at your clinic, if they're available. If not, order one through your referee-in-chief.
- Level 2/3/4 officials should attend a refresher clinic. They may attend a Level 1 clinic, if they can't get to a refresher clinic.
- Refresher clinics are 4 hours long & cost \$20.00-\$25.00 (If you don't have a maintenance evaluation for last season, the clinic might be a good time to talk to evaluators to arrange one by December 15).
- If you've completed the Level 2/3 clinic but haven't had at least two Level 2 evaluations, you're still a Level 1 official.
- Level 1 and new officials must attend a Level 1 clinic.
- Level 1 clinics are 8 hours long, including breaks, and cost \$40.00, usually paid by your association.
- Call the regional officiating coordinator to register for your clinic.

"You can keep your hat on....."

What's a legal helmet for refereeing? CSA-approved, we know; we thought that they had to be on the list issued at the start of last season.

At the last Provincials Jane Larkworthy pointed out that the list was of helmets approved for use with ringette masks & cages and that older CSA-approved helmets were still OK for refereeing.

So, you can dig up your old Canadien, Cooper SK7 or SK300 or whatever, instead of removing your cage from your playing helmet every time you're going into zebra mode. The Cooper SK600 is still OK unless it's cracked, like the one still being carried around by a very senior official.

Registration, 1999-2000

Make sure you're registered with ORA by November 15, either through your local association or independently. Registration fees will be \$22.50 this season.

Cheques should be mailed to the ORA at :
1185 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 705,
North York, ON, M3C 3C6

Please include your name and address and your new registration number.

Now that I've finally memorized my ref number, they've changed it?

Because of changes in the ORA's computer systems, new numbers have been issued to all registrants: players, coaches, executives and, yes, even officials.

If you register through your local association, find out your new number from your referee-in-chief.

Independent officials can get their number from the ORA office.

If you sign a game report before you know your new number, use your old number.

Odds & Ends

At the 2000 Nationals in Prince George, BC, the Intermediates will be playing with a shot clock. Ringette Canada is finalizing experimental rules, and we'll likely see some Intermediate games using these rules at invitational tournaments this season... An updated list of evaluators should accompany the next Ref-O-Gram. Also, your membership card... Hands cold, but don't want to wear gloves on ice? Some referees apply hand lotion before the game to insulate their hands. Problem: the ring feels slippery the first time you pick it up.

It's Contest time again!

Who can come up with the best excuse by a referee? For example: 1. "I saw the penalty but couldn't get my arm up because I have a rotator cuff problem." 2. "No, coach, that wasn't a delayed penalty signal. I was just scratching my helmet. Sorry your goalie left the net and the other team scored."

Mail entries by November 30 to Ted Moritsugu, 169 Mill Pond Court, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 4W4

The prize for the last contest was a \$5.00 gift certificate from Eaton's. How can we ever top that?