

Northern Stripes

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Another hockey season is quickly coming to an end as spring is nearly upon us. Congratulations to all officials who has/had the opportunity for a provincial or league playoff assignment. These are important games to the players and you have to be ready and at your best. Remember to maintain the standard of play throughout the playoffs.

I hope to see many of you out to the final General Meeting on April 21. We will be holding our elections as well as our annual award night.

Finally, I would like to thank your executive in the Zone who work very hard to provide programs and support to local centers in Zone. The strength of our Zone is in its volunteers, from the hard, dedicated work of all of the local referee in chiefs, assignors, supervisors and mentors, whose time and effort generally go unappreciated. Thanks to all of you for your commitment to the officiating program and to our officials!

I hope that everyone has a great summer and will look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Ray Keller
Chairman
chairman@northzone.ab.ca

TREASURER

This year we had a slight increase in registrations, last year we had 1405, this year 1420, the increase was with level 1's in areas outside metro Edmonton.

As a reminder, the next newsletter will be in September, it will have a listing of clinic information for the fall, so it is important that you keep me informed of any address/phone number changes you have over the summer (contact info below). However, if your e-mail address doesn't change over the summer, you can have the newsletter e-mailed to you in the fall, just sign up on our web page at northzone.ab.ca.

Because we have no March General Meeting, cheques for all playoff hockey will not be available until the April 21st meeting.

In closing I would like to thank all the executive members for their support in my eleven years as treasurer, and hope the best for their futures on the executive.

Dave Butler
Treasurer
Treasurer@northzone.ab.ca



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chairman	Page 1
Treasurer	Page 1
Female	Page 2
Tofield	Page 2
EMHA & Minor Committee	Page 3
Female	Page 3
Federation	Page 4
Supervision and Shadow	Page 5
Senior Committee	Page 5
St. Albert Bantam AAA	Page 5
Match Penalties	Page 5
Awards	Page 6
Hockey Alberta Meeting	Page 6
Clinics	Page 7
Jacket for sale	Page 7
Slo-Pitch, BBQ & Poker	Page 7
Elections	Page 8
Northzone Open	Page 8
Provincial Tournaments	Page 8
Native Provincials	Page 8

General Meetings will be held at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Edmonton Inn). Please note the room for each meeting below. The dates for this seasons meetings are as follows.

Meeting Dates
April 21 (Elections) -
Ridgewood RM

All meetings will start at 7:30 PM sharp. Please try and make it to at least one meeting over the season and help our Zone to continue its history as a leader in Canada.

FEMALE

It has certainly been a great season and I enjoyed every moment of it. With this being my first season, I have learned a lot and would like to thank everyone for their understanding and excellent support. I would like to extend our thanks to Ray Keller and the North Zone Executive for your support of the Female Program. It is certainly a great pleasure to work with all of you. You all rock!!

We have seen our officials grow and advance their skills in every way. Our game is very complicated from an officiating perspective and it takes many, many games, with continual feedback and practice to become proficient at our trade. It certainly cannot be achieved overnight, so take your time, set your goals and work hard to achieve them all the while enjoying the experience and the friendships along the way. Remember, the summer is a great time to work on your conditioning, agility, and strength for the upcoming season.

The level of play and maturity of the female game at the lower levels has been impressive. We as an officiating group must parallel this growth by incorporating a parallel development program that acknowledges our grassroots officials. Our female program executive will be having discussions with numerous groups over the course of the spring and summer to evolve what we believe to be something very special.

We have shared in the moments of numerous outstanding performances and very special times by our North Zone officials this season. If it's a fall at centre ice on national TV, we were there cheering; if it's a road trip to Warburg to work a Team China game, we were there to provide directions; working 4 games in one day because the supervisor forgot to convey important information to another official; if its proving we really don't have a life when we all show up to the CIS overtime game. To paraphrase all of this, it has been a "wing-roast" of a season.

Thanks everyone for your hard work, dedication to the program and your patience as we build what is to be a very solid and exciting program. By the way, don't forget the slow-pitch tournament in May at the wind-up. You best be practicing like we are. Have a wonderful summer everyone!!

Karen Kost
Female Program Coordinator

TOFIELD

Plenty of excitement out in Tofield as the season draws to a close. Our 2 Novice teams are hosting their annual invitational tournament Feb.29-Mar.2. This will keep our local officials very busy that weekend. The Tofield Satellites are in to the 2nd round against Provost which means that some of the guys in the North Zones Senior Program are seeing some extra assignments. We are hosting Midget C Provincials on Mar.14-16. This is the first provincial tournament that we have ever hosted since I have been RIC. Assigning this tournament is a real challenge since we do not have a lot of local officials. However, several RICs within the zone, namely Jill Clulow, Scott Walker, Daryl Esch and Cory Kokotailo have stepped up to lend a helping hand in assigning this tournament. It is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Ken Dentzien for providing a supervisor (Dwayne Yakubow) for this tournament. In closing I would like to thank 2 local officials, namely Peter Rogers and Adam Lazaruk for the tremendous amount of work that they have done for me this season. They are never dark and take as many assignments as I give them. My job would be impossible without their support. Thanks guys.

Larry Suchy
Tofield R.I.C

NORTH ZONE EXECUTIVE

Chairman:
Ray Keller

Vice Chairman:
Mitch Carriere

Treasurer:
Dave Butler

Secretary:
Kumail Moledina

Directors:
Ryan Petryshyn
Kevin Adam
Cory Kokotailo
Lance Hyndman

Senior Referees:
Jerry George

Senior Linesmen:
Guy Doucet
Supervisions and Shadows
Kevin Adam

CIS and AJHL Supervisor:
Mike Rebus

Clinic Coordinator:
Don Buskas

CJHL Liason:
Lance Hyndman

Match Penalties Representative:
Cory Kokotailo

EMHA Representative:
Herman Costa

Federation Representative:
Duncan MacDougall

Female Hockey:
Karen Kost

MAAA Supervisor:
Gary Tremblay

Past Zone Chairman:
Darin Bauer

West Satellite Chairman:
Andy LeBlanc

Provincial Chairman:
Wally Popik

EMHA AND MINOR COMMITTEE

Another season has come to an end. Thanks to all officials in Edmonton who officiated hockey in the AA Program. I am happy to say that the feedback from the AA Council as well as the EMHA has been very positive. We did have a few problems this season but we quickly learnt from them and got better as the season went on. Congratulations to all Officials that received playoff assignments. If you did not receive any playoff assignments you must work harder next season and maybe you will be able to take that next step.

It was another tough season for the assignors with a lot of last minute cancellations and no shows. Some officials seem to like to work Hockey on specific days only. This unfortunately does not work as hockey is being played every day of the week but mostly on weekends. The assignors in the AA program in Edmonton did an excellent job of reassigning Games that were cancelled changed or added at the last minute. The commitment level of some officials in the city AA program has come into Question again this year and it should show in your playoff assignments. If you have a concern or a question with your assignments please feel free to contact me.

The EMHA continue to support the referee program. They have agreed to once again help financially support the shadow program in Edmonton which continues to get better every season thanks to the volunteers. The EMHA also financially supports Edmonton officials who attend development camp. The EMHA is happy with the job the officials have done this year and the way the games have been officiated and would like to see this continue in the future.

In closing I would like to thank all the assignors (Ryan Petryshyn, Scott Knibbs, Colin Watt, Chris Fox, Sanjeev Bhagrath and Jay Crockett) as well as Mitch Carriere for taking care of discipline in the city AA program. Thanks to Minor committee for there support, commitment and patience as well as the executive for all their hard work, guidance and support again this season. If you would like to officiate, assign or supervise AA hockey in Edmonton next season, talk to myself, someone on the minor committee or anyone on the executive and they will give you the information you need.

Good luck to everyone in the playoffs and I hope to see you next year.

Herman Costa
Minor Committee Chairman
EMHA Referee Representative



SENIOR ASSIGNORS

Congratulations to all officials that worked the playoffs this season and to those that are still working into the Semis and Finals in the numerous leagues that we assign in the North Zone. It was a very active season with a lot of hockey still being played on Friday and Saturday nights. Availability and taking assignments on short notice are the most important factors for Senior officials in our Zone and those that fit the bill get more games than those that don't.

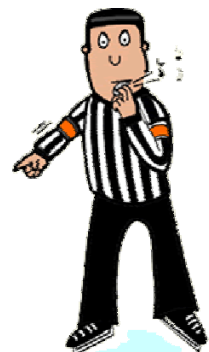
The supervision expectations for senior officials worked well for almost everyone this season and we will probably continue to use this format of assigning officials to certain leagues again next year. Thanks to those that exceeded the minimum number of supervisions, your commitment to developing our younger officials was appreciated and duly noted.

Next year is a Rule Change year and the Level 4/5 camp will be held in Edmonton from Aug 23 to 24th so come prepared and in shape for the physical testing. Some Level 3 officials may be invited to attend.

Remember to update your contact information with your assignors and Dave Butler so we can contact you early in the season. Summer time is a difficult time to track down officials if we do not have your current e-mail address or phone numbers.

Yours in hockey,

Jerry George and Guy Doucet



FEDERATION NOTES

This season has been a grind for the coordinators and assignors in the Federation program. One factor contributing to this situation is the commitment displayed by some of our members in the program. Commitment means when you take an assignment, you do it; do not turn it back. Commitment means when you receive a message about a call, return it in a timely manner – do not delay. Commitment means making yourself available as much as possible and being willing to do any hockey you are asked to do. Commitment means giving your best effort, each and every time you officiate a hockey game. Can you honestly say that you met every one of these standards this past season? If you cannot say that, then there is room for improvement.

I would like to thank those officials who made Edmonton's Minor Hockey Week Tournament a success. Your voluntary contribution is an integral part of the Tournament. 500 teams participated in the 709 games played in the Tournament. In the BB portion of the Tournament there were 60 finals with 142 assignments. As many officials as possible were used to cover the finals. Overall cooperation of the members was outstanding. Exceptional support was received from the Senior program officials many of whom were proactive and sought out assignments. Any official who worked a final game received two tickets to the CHL skills competition and two tickets to the CHL Prospects game. The Minor Hockey Week Tournament Committee is providing 100 jackets to officials who worked the Tournament. Jackets were awarded to officials chosen by random draw. Each game officiated earned an official one entry in the draw. Jackets will be available in late March.

Playoff in the BB program began February 26, 2008 and will conclude on March 27, 2008. Games will be played in Edmonton, St. Albert and Sherwood Park. Games on St. Albert and Sherwood Park will be assigned locally. The Provincial BB playoff in Pee wee, Bantam and Midget will be in Edmonton March 14 to 16, 2008. Officials that will work these games will be selected based upon recommendation of the five Edmonton District referee coordinators and consultation with the city category directors. The playoff overtime format is depleting players. It is the responsibility of the referee to know the overtime rules and to know the correct playoff game fee rate.

Clinics will begin early in September 2008. Check the North Zone web site and Northern Stripes for clinic details in late August. To attend an Edmonton clinic you must pre-register. Procrastination will cost you money. Next season will likely bring rule changes as well as a new rulebook/casebook format.

I would like to thank the District referee coordinators and assignors for their dedicated commitment this past season. Gary Greenough, Frank Fithen, Darryl and Shirley Desjarlais, Bill Clark Calvin Patterson, Peter Irwin, Dave Kemp, Leigh Crockett, Craig Edhart, Andrew Humen, Colleen Fox, Jim Bassingthwaite, Ryan Wass and Bob Broomhall have done a great deal of work to get you your assignments this season. Rest, relax and enjoy the summer!

Duncan MacDougall
Federation Coordinator



FEDERATION DISTRICT REFEREE COORDINATORS

North East District	Bill Clark
South East District	Dave Kemp
South West District	Gary Greenough
North West District	Duncan MacDougall
Knights of Columbus	Darryl Desjarlais
Edmonton Girls	Don Markewich

REMINDER:

If you're a hockey player & you're under suspension from hockey, you're also suspended from officiating until such time as you are re-instated.

SUPERVISION & SHADOW PROGRAM

The North Zone Supervision Program has been fairly successful this season. The following statistics are current as of Thursday, February 28, 2008:

Total Number of Supervisions Completed: 1138
 Number of Active Supervisors: 123
 Number of Officials Supervised: 485
 Number of Mentorship (Shadow) Supervisions: 112

The top ten by location of supervisions completed is as follows: The top ten supervisors of supervisions completed is as follows:

Centre	#	Supervisor	#
Edmonton	480	Ziegler, Dean	46
St. Albert	196	Tremblay, Gary	43
Leduc	79	Kost, Karen	32
Fort Sask	69	MacDougall, Duncan	28
Sherwood Park	64	Weyland, Ryan	28
Beaumont	34	Scott, Brad	27
Devon	27	Watt, Colin	26
Vegreville	26	Yakubow, Dwayne	26
Camrose	24	Husselby, Craig	23
Spruce Grove	16	Buskas, Don	22

St. Albert leads the way in Shadow supervisions this year with 33, followed closely by Edmonton (26) and Fort Saskatchewan (23). Top Shadow Supervisor is Brad Scott of St. Albert, completing 11 mentorship supervisions. Good work!

Thanks everyone! Check out the North Zone website for additional updates as the season draws to a close. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me by e-mail at supervisions@northzone.ab.ca.

Kevin Adam
Supervisions Coordinator
supervisions@northzone.ab.ca

SENIOR COMMITTEE

Congratulations to all officials who were selected to work the various league playoffs and provincial tournaments in the Zone. Anyone looking to move into the senior program next season, please send me an email stating your intentions no later than August 15. It is very important to get your intentions in early!

Ray Keller
Chairman
chairman@northzone.ab.ca

ST. ALBERT BANTAM AAA TOURNAMENT

St. Albert's annual John Reid Memorial Bantam AAA tournament ran this year from January 18 to 21st. It was a great success from the officiating side of things. We have received many compliments from the coaches and parents, as well as the organizing committee, about the quality of officials used in the tournament this season.

Every one of the 30 round robin games were supervised by North Zone officials. The semi finals and the final were assigned based on these supervisions. The two semi finals were officiated by Blair Van Buul (Spruce Grove), with Will Moss (Calgary), and Joel Yachimec (Red Deer) on lines, and Curtis Robb (Calgary) with Jeremy Goodall (St. Albert) and Chris Fox (Edmonton). The final was officiated by Sanjeev Bahgrath (Edmonton) with Markku Luopa (St. Albert) and Reid Anderson (Calgary). Everyone had a great tournament, and the final decisions were very difficult to make.

Thank you to all the North Zone officials who took time out of their schedules to come out as supervisors. Having 33 games supervised in 4 days was a huge project and we really appreciated all the help we received. Thank you also to all the officials from around the zone who came in to ref, the tournament would not have been successful without all of you.

Jill Clulow
St. Albert RIC



MATCH PENALTIES

Another hockey season is drawing to a close quickly, and I am happy to report a sharp decline in match on officials penalties assessed this season. Currently in the North zone there has been 7 match penalties, compared with 17 at this time last year.

In our zone we have had four 71A's, one 71B, and two 71C's. All of the cases have been found in favour of the referee's call. I would like to thank all officials for being prompt in their contact to me in regards to these infractions and for writing great reports to aid in the investigations. I also would like to thank all other officials who did not have to make a report to me. Keep up the good work everyone and good luck in your playoffs.

Cory Kokotailo
Social Committee

AWARDS

The finalists for the North Zone and Hockey Alberta awards have been determined. These awards will be presented at the April General Meeting. Good luck to all finalists. Finalists are listed below.

Chairman's Award – dedication and commitment to North Zone minor hockey:

- o Dave Butler
- o Gary Greenough
- o Larry Suchy

Supervision Award – outstanding service to the North Zone supervision program:

- o Karen Kost
- o Kumail Moledina
- o Gary Tremblay

Duncan MacDougall Award – outstanding service and commitment – unrecognized:

- o Gary Greenough
- o Ryan Petryshyn
- o Larry Suchy

Ron Panchyshyn Award – dedication to North Zone referee's committee:

- o Don Buskas
- o Guy Doucet
- o Jerry George

Mike Bugaida Award – women's outstanding dedication to the referee's program:

- o Arron Best
- o Brenda McNabb
- o Lynn Horbasenko



REFEREES' COUNCIL

Hockey Alberta Referees' Council Notice of Annual General Meeting

Date: Sunday, June 8, 2008

Location: Holiday Inn

6500 - 67 Street

Red Deer, Alberta

Registration: 9:30 AM

Meeting: 10:00 AM



REFEREES' COUNCIL

Golf Tournament Details

Date: Saturday, June 7, 2008

Location: Pheasant Back Golf and Country Club

Stettler, Alberta

Time: 2:00 PM

Bus transportation will be provided from the Holiday inn at 12:00. There will be a barbecue to follow. To register for the golf tournament or barbecue, contact Curtis Nichols at curtis13@telus.net by May 15, 2008. Cost of golf (including carts and barbecue) will be about \$75 (Curtis will have a firm price when you book).

Hotel rooms for Saturday are available by contacting the Holiday Inn (800-661-4961) and indicating you are with the Hockey Alberta Referees. Rooms must be booked prior to May 7, 2008. Hotel rooms for the executive meetings Friday and Saturday should be booked through your Zone Chairman.

CLINICS

The new format of the single day clinics for level 2 and higher officials who were registered last season was accepted very well by the officials that were able to attend them. The total registrations for our zone increased about 1%, but this increase came as a result of more level one officials registering that had to attend a normal 2-day clinic. The number of registered officials who were eligible to attend a single day clinic was actually down.

The single day clinic will be here for next season, but there will be some changes in order to have a higher level of experience of officials attending these clinics.

- For the 2008/09 season the minimum age for an official to attend a single day clinic will be 17 yrs before Jan 1, 2009 and they must have been registered in the 2007/08 season. If an official has been registered in a number of previous years but did not register in 2007/08, there may be exceptions made with the approval of the zone chairman only.
- The single day clinics will be located in areas where there will be enough students to have full classes of 30 students so there will be 2 instructors at each one. This will provide a better learning environment for those attending.

There will be new Hockey Alberta crest that must be purchased for next season along with a completely reformatted rulebook. The new rulebook will be a type of small ringed binder that will allow pages to be changed and new rules to be added as required. The rule numbers as we know them now will be changed to a new numbering system. I do not know the price of these items yet and will let the clinic contacts know when I find out. I hope everyone has a great summer and plans on returning in the fall.

Don Buskas
Clinic Coordinator
clinics@northzone.ab.ca

JACKET FOR SALE

North Zone winter jacket 3 in 1 (fleece is embroidered as well) if you missed getting your order in there are two left over. M and XL for \$175 please call Gary Tremblay if interested during the day.



SLO-PITCH, BBQ & POKER

Things are going to be a little different this year. The awards evening will be in conjunction with our annual elections meeting on April 21, 2008 in the Ridgewood Room of the Ramada Conference Center. This will be an excellent time to come out and vote as well as see the winners of our prestigious awards. There will not be an official banquet this year but more of a social event. The plan is to have a slo-pitch tournament. The tournament will be played on May 10, 2008. The place will be the baseball diamonds in Fort Saskatchewan, adjacent to the Jubilee Recreation Center. The format will be mixed teams and to sign up you will need to e-mail Ryan Petryshyn (social@northzone.ab.ca) with your name and others you would like to play with. The social committee will make the final teams to try and make it fair. The baseball will occur from 2-6 pm and dinner will be served at the Legion Hall at 6 pm. This year's dinner will be catered hamburgers and hotdogs. This is a family oriented event so bring the kids, as there will be entertainment supplied for them as well. We have booked an inflatable device from Jumpy Things so children will be able to play. There is also a park nearby and little soccer fields. After supper there will be a poker tournament for anyone interested. \$20 buy-in if you play slo-pitch, \$25 if you do not. Winnings will be divided based on number of participants. Prices for this year's event are \$50 for a family, \$35 for a couple, and \$20 for a single. Hope to see you all there.

Ryan Petryshyn
Social Committee

ELECTION NOTICE

April 21, 2008

7:30 pm

General Meetings are held at the Ramada Inn. Our Annual Elections will be held at this time. The positions up for election this year are:

Vice Chairman – 2 year term, Treasurer – 2 year term, 4 Director positions – 1 year term

Don't just sit back while important decisions that directly affect you are being made. If you are interested in running for any of these positions please contact Darrin Bauer at elections@northzone.ab.ca.

9th Annual NORTHZONE OPEN

This years Northzone Open is set for Saturday, June 21st, 2008 at the Athabasca Golf Club. As with last years tournament, we will be boarding a 47 passenger bus for the course on Saturday morning, 10 am at the Ramada Hotel on Kingsway Avenue and returning approximately 10 pm on Saturday evening. This years tournament promises to sell out as the Athabasca course is highly touted as one of the best in Northern Alberta.

Cost for this tournament will be \$120. This will cover your green fee, cart, prizes, steak dinner after and a beverage and hot dog after 9 holes. The teams are booked on a first paid, first served basis so please do not delay on getting your funds to me.

Please contact me through the Northzone Website at match@northzone.ab.ca to book your team and payment terms. You may also contact me at to book your team.

Cory Kokotailo
Social Committee



PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS

Our zone hosted 11 provincial tournaments this year. I would like to thank all the supervisors who took the time to supervise at these tournaments. At time of printing not all tournaments have been played so I will not list all the names but a special thank you to Cory Kokotailo, Dwayne Yakubow, Don Buskas, Brock Mulligan, Dale Hoffman & Bob Anderson who dedicated entire weekends to supervise. Also a big thank you to Karen Kost and the female program for looking after the female provincials.

Ken Dentzien
Provincial Tournament Coordinator

NATIVE PROVINCIALS

Native provincials will be held in Edmonton from April 10-13 using 4 rinks. There are games at every level from Novice to Midget. Assignors have not been appointed yet but if you would like to work the tournament please email me at kdentzien@shaw.ca

Ken Dentzien
Provincial Tournament Coordinator



2007 Champs.
Remember it's not a gimme if you're still away.



Two of our finest looking their pre-game best.

North Zone Referees Committee Final Registration Numbers - 2007/08

Level	Total	Edm./Sr.	West Sat	The Rest
1	603	104	83	416
2	635	215	64	356
3	130	55	13	62
4	34	28	2	4
5	8	8		0
6	1	1		0
Associate	5			0
Life	4			0
Total	1420	411	162	838