

# Northern Stripes

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Christmas marks the halfway point of the season and so far, it has been a busy one. While registrations indicate an increase in numbers for the first time in four years, getting officials assigned to games is becoming more difficult. A big thank you goes to our local referee in chiefs and their assignors who through their hard work, ensure officials are at the games. The job has become more challenging over the past few years with the majority of games being played on weekends, combined with a lower amount of officials to draw from. Despite an increase in the number of officials this season, those challenges will continue. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the program.

In our clinics this season, we discussed the new rule application for faceoffs. We have been informed that the interpretation that was given out at your clinic for faceoffs in the neutral zone was reclarified by Hockey Canada. This will change the way we have been conducting our neutral zone faceoffs...please look in the newsletter for the interpretation.

There is a lot of hockey going on over the holidays and if you are available, there will be plenty of opportunity to become involved. Please let your assignor know of your availability during the holiday season.

Lastly, I cannot thank the tireless efforts of our executive and the volunteers of the officiating program. It is you who make the program what it is. Keep up the good work!

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and all the best in the New Year!

Ray Keller  
Chairman  
chairman@northzone.ab.ca

## RECLASSIFICATION

A reminder to all officials who are looking to be reclassified for the 2009-10 season, to get their information in to me by January 1, 2009. Details are available on our website, [www.northzone.ab.ca](http://www.northzone.ab.ca).

Ray Keller  
Chairman  
[chairman@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:chairman@northzone.ab.ca)



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## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

CHECK US OUT FOR ALL  
YOUR LATEST  
NORTHZONE INFO &  
UPDATES

[WWW.NORTHZONE.AB.CA](http://WWW.NORTHZONE.AB.CA)

General Meetings will be held at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Edmonton Inn) in the Ridgewood Room. Please note that the new room for this season is located on the 2nd floor of the Ramada Inn. The remaining dates for this seasons meetings are:

**Meeting Dates**  
**January 19**  
**February 23**  
**April 20 (Elections)**

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.

## OFFSIDE INTERPRETATION

The only time you move forward to a faceoff dot in the neutral zone is for a completed pass for offside, where the pass originated on the attacking side of the red line. All other situations that result in a stoppage in the neutral zone are moved back to the faceoff spot outside the attacking team's blueline. When in the neutral zone the attacking team either glove passes, high sticks the puck or shoots or tips the puck out of play then the faceoff would take place back at their neutral zone faceoff dot.

## SENIOR ASSIGNORS

The season is progressing well now that all the leagues have started the regular season. Thanks to those officials that made themselves available on short notice to cover all the exhibition games that came up short notice. A reminder to all Senior Officials that Dark Days are requested so we can assign games to you on the days you can work hockey. Once you have submitted them, we expect you to be able to take the games we assign you. This season, we have had to make numerous changes after the assignments go out and officials returning games because they are now dark???? This needs to improve as it makes our jobs way more difficult. Please keep updating your dark days as they come up so we do not assign you to a game that you cannot take.

Professionalism has been an issue as well and we have heard some complaints about officials talking back to players and coaches in various leagues at the higher levels... remember to take the high road and to treat disrespect with respect. We are on the ice to diffuse emotional conflicts, not to create controversy and animosity.

We welcome some new officials to the Senior Program this year and hope that you are all working towards moving up in the program.

We wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all officials and your families and best of luck in working the playoffs in 2009.

**Jerry George and Guy Doucet**

## SENIOR COMMITTEE

The first half of the season has been a busy one in the senior program.

First off, congratulations to Jason Kushnerick of Camrose who was selected to work the World Junior A Challenge in November. Also, congratulations to Jonathan Spurgeon (Edmonton), Colin Watt (Edmonton), Scott Knibbs (Edmonton), Matt MacFayden (Edmonton), Greg Chornohus (Edmonton), Alec Becigneul (St. Albert) and Tim Krueger (Fort Saskatchewan) who have been selected to work the Mac's tournament in Calgary. Good luck to all.

Most weekends continue to be a challenge for our assignors due to the amount of hockey, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights. This will continue after Christmas so please continue to work closely with the assignors.

Good luck to all officials and continue the good work!

Have a good season!

**Ray Keller**  
Chairman



## NORTH ZONE EXECUTIVE

Chairman:

Ray Keller

Vice Chairman:

Kumail Moledina

Treasurer:

Dave Butler

Secretary:

Dwayne Yakubow

Directors:

Ryan Petryshyn

Kevin Adam

Ryan Weyland

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:

Ryan Petryshyn

EMHA Representative:

Herman Costa

Federation Representative:

Duncan MacDougall

Female Hockey:

Karen Kost

MAAA Supervisor:

Gary Tremblay

Past Zone Chairman:

Darin Bauer

West Satellite Chairman:

Doug Laboucane

Provincial Chairman:

Wally Popiik

## SUPERVISION & SHADOW PROGRAM

The North Zone Supervision Program is off to a mediocre start, hopefully only due to a lack of forms being submitted. The following statistics are current as of Monday, November 24, 2008:

Total Number of Supervisions Completed	605
Number of Active Supervisors	111
Number of Officials Supervised	356
Number of Mentorship (Shadow) Supervisions	103

The breakdown by location of the supervisions completed is as follows:

Location	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Beaumont			20	37		57
Camrose			2	4		6
Devon			4	12		16
Drayton Valley			3			3
Edmonton		15	77	160	2	254
Fort McMurray		3		24	3	30
Fort Saskatchewan		6		9		15
Gibbons			7	3		10
Lamont			2	3		5
Leduc		3	9	10		22
Morinville				1		1
New Sarepta			2	4		6
Riviere Qui Barre				11		11
Sherwood Park	1	3	25	36		65
Spruce Grove		1	2	5		8
St. Albert	1	6	3	12		22
Thorsby			2			2
Tofield			3	1		4
Wetaskiwin				6		6
Whitcourt			9	53		62
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>605</b>

The breakdown by level of official supervised is as follows:

Month	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Totals
August			1	1			2
September		9	20	7	1		37
October	74	65	26	4	1		170
November	144	176	56	10	4	1	391
December	3	2					5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>605</b>

Just a friendly reminder to please submit your supervision forms as soon as possible. They can be e-mailed to [supervisions@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:supervisions@northzone.ab.ca), making sure to request a delivery receipt to ensure that they have been transmitted properly. You may also submit them via fax to or you can bring them to a general meeting. It really helps to get the forms in as they are completed rather than compiling them for a month or two. This will also help us target problem areas and identify officials who are in need of someone to watch them.

## SUPERVISION & SHADOW PROGRAM (con't)

The new shadow jackets have all arrived and been distributed to the new mentor supervisors. We are hoping to have a better percentage of officials seen this year, so the fifteen new shadows should help.

If you are in need of someone to come and watch you and check your progress, please e-mail me and we will try our best to coordinate a supervisor to come out and see you to the best of our ability. The more lead time we have of your schedule, the better!

Thanks everyone! If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me by e-mail at [supervisions@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:supervisions@northzone.ab.ca).

**Kevin Adam**  
Supervisions Coordinator  
[supervisions@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:supervisions@northzone.ab.ca)

## TOFIELD

We are a third of the way through the season out in Tofield. Here is an update to what has taken place. Our clinic was held on Oct.18/19 and was instructed by Herman Costa. We had five locals attend, as well as representation from Holden and Strathcona. As for the other three of our eight local officials, two went to one day clinics in Edmonton, and 1 went to a 2 day clinic elsewhere. This year we have 7 teams to provide officials for; 2 Novice, 1 Atom, 2 PeeWee, 1Bantam, and 1 Midget team. Half of our officials have already been supervised and the other half will be looked at soon as our first tournament of the season will be held November 28/29/30 at the Atom level. Our local Senior team, the Satellites, are off to a strong start with 5 wins and only 1 loss; which is providing our North Zone Senior Program officials with some excellent hockey to officiate.

In closing, I would like to thank Jill Clulow, Ken Dentzien, Scott Walker, and Daryl Esch for helping to provide officials for the Midget C Provincials that we hosted last March. As well as Ken Dentzien for providing supervisors at the tournament, and Dwayne Yakubow for sacrificing an entire weekend to supervise that tournament. Thanks guys!

**Larry Suchy**  
Tofield R.I.C.



Who says the North Zone isn't tough?  
This is what happens when supervisions are not completed on time!

## TREASURER

Are you missing your last two pay cheques? Are you not getting calls from assignors? Did you borrow this newsletter from a friend because you never get one? Have you moved? Has your phone number changed? Did you tell us? If any of this sounds familiar, we need to hear from you. Every year we waste our time and your money mailing newsletters and cheques to the wrong address. Don't rely on your information being updated when you take your clinic, depending on workload and where you take your clinic, it could take until mid January to have you file updated, which in some cases, means you will miss two newsletters and three pay cheques.

If your contact information has changed, you need to update your address and phone number with the treasurer. Please visit <http://northzone.ab.ca/AddressChange>

Also, if you officiate Senior male or female hockey, or "A" hockey in Edmonton, you will receive your game fees by cheque at the monthly general meetings, except November games which are mailed in early December, and February games which are available at the April General meeting. Game fees are calculated using the information received from your assignors, if you feel your pay is incorrect, check with your assignor first. You also need to contact your assignor if your assignment has changed, for example you are assigned to be a linesman in a game, but one of your partner does not show, you need to tell your assignor so your pay can be adjusted.

**Dave Butler**  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:treasurer@northzone.ab.ca)

## FEDERATION NOTES

**SHARED RESPECT!** Officials are reminded the use of profane and abusive language when communicating with players is unacceptable and unprofessional. Officials must show respect to players regardless of the circumstances. You are a representative of Hockey Alberta and your conduct must be above reproach.

Please adhere to the North Zone Rate Sheet for 2008 – 2009. The officials are responsible for charging the correct rate. Rates vary by category and by the number of officials. These rates apply in Edmonton and for interlock games in St. Albert, Sherwood Park, Stony Plain and Spruce Grove.

**YOUR NAME IS TO BE PRINTED LEGIBLY ON THE GAME SHEET.** No exceptions.

Please enforce the standard of play. If you see a rule violation assess the appropriate penalty. The severity of the violation, the time of the game, the score in the game and the mood of the referee are considerations which should not become a factor in deciding if a penalty will be assessed. If you see it, call it! Restraining fouls are a priority. For restraining fouls there is a danger zone and there may be consequences as a result of a player entering a danger zone. If the consequences occur, the referee must assess a penalty when he sees the consequences of a player having entered the danger zone. It is also very important to strictly penalize hits to the head and checking from behind.

The Minor Hockey Week Tournament is January 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008. All officials are expected to contribute volunteer time when requested. If you want games, talk to a District referee coordinator. Each official is a volunteer contributing time free of charge. Get involved in Canada's largest hockey tournament.

The Zone 8 Hockey Alberta Atom 4 on 4 Tournament was held in Edmonton on November 2, 2008 at Coronation Arena. The officials who worked this tournament were Josh Wallin, Jordan Desjarlais, Cassandra Gregory, Nick Zimmer, Brett Bradshaw, and Jacob Johnson.

League play began October 5, 2008. Round 2 began play November 29, 2008 and will conclude January 8, 2009. Play in Round 3 begins January 19, 2009. The playoff round will be in March 2009. The Edmonton vs. Calgary provincial play-off is in Calgary in 2009

**Duncan MacDougall**  
**Federation Coordinator**

### FEDERATION DISTRICT REFEREE COORDINATORS

North East District	Bill Clark
South East District	Ron Oscroft
South West District	Gary Greenough
North West District	Duncan MacDougall
Knights of Columbus	Tim Hibbs
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**

## SOCIAL

Yes, its that time of year again - start thinking about the post season and spring/summer activities. The North Zone Open is set for Black Bull Golf Course (Pigeon Lake) on June 20th, 2009. The tournament will cost \$130 and will include a bus ride to the course, green fees, cart, refreshment, dinner and prizes. If you would like the fee to be deducted from your next check or more information please contact me.

Also around the corner is the year end social. Similar to last year, the event will be held in mid to late May at a local centre within the zone. With fun, interactive activities like softball, kids activities, BBQ and evening activity, the event is sure to be a blast for all participants. Start rounding up your teams for the fierce competition that is expected at the ball tournament. Rumour has it that last year's winner, Team Fort Saskatchewan, is looking forward to the rematch with this year's version of the Female Program team. Other officials groups, centres and individuals are encouraged to sign up. If you are interested in showcasing your local centre, would like to help organize, have a creative idea, or would like more information please contact me at [social@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:social@northzone.ab.ca).

**Ryan Weyland**  
[Social@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:Social@northzone.ab.ca)

## MATCH PENALTIES

A slow start to the year is a good thing, but it has picked up here the last couple of weeks. There have been two incidents to date, with one under appeal. Both incidents were 9.6 a) and one was given the minimum one month suspension. Remember Match Penalties on officials are the most severe penalty in the book so you **MUST** contact me within 24 hours of the incident. You must take the top copy of the game sheet with you after the game. If anybody has questions, please inform the person(s) that this is Hockey Alberta policy. Call me as soon as possible with the basic details and I will direct you from there. You can e-mail details to me as well as your reports to: [match@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:match@northzone.ab.ca). A standard form for match penalties is also available on our website. Feel free to call my cell phone if it is late at night and leave the details on the message service.

**Ryan Petryshyn**  
[match@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:match@northzone.ab.ca)

## DISCIPLINE

It has been an extremely busy year for discipline this season. This is truly unfortunate as we want to keep our incidents down to zero. As of this point we have had 27 incidents. No shows still continue to top the list. Please remember if you take a game, to record the Date & Time correctly and remember to show up! This is a commitment you make and parents, coaches and especially players are counting on you to be there. Otherwise the game can't go on. Please conduct yourselves professionally in and around the rink.

It is extremely disappointing to see an increase in the last few weeks in the number of complaints that are surrounding reverse abuse or officials swearing in conversation with or directly at players or team officials. This type of behavior is totally unacceptable and we will suspend any officials that are found to be involved in this type of behavior. We have rules to deal with unruly coaches or players and instead of using them we are choosing to swear, degrade or humiliate players of all ages or team officials. One of the most important qualifications of our position is to be able to COMMUNICATE. We all made a commitment to this program and are governed by our "code of ethics". We need to ensure that we live by that code.

For our senior officials, a reminder that the 48 hour rule is in place. This means that linesmen must contact the referee at least 48 hours before game time. Referees who have not received this call must contact Guy Doucet or Ryan Petryshyn and let them know at least 24 hours before game time. Failure to make necessary calls will result in fines being levied. This system is in place so that we double check that every game is covered.

Have a great holiday season and see you around the rink.

**Kumail Moledina**  
[vicechair@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:vicechair@northzone.ab.ca)

## CLINICS

This season we held 68 clinics in 36 different locations throughout the zone with 47 two-day clinics and 21 single day clinics. Next season will see some changes in the timing and location of the single day clinics as many of these clinics had low attendance. There will be one weekend in early Sept and one in Oct that will only have single day clinics scheduled in Edmonton for both Saturday and Sunday. This will allow a choice of four different days to attend one of these clinics and allow for multiple classes to have similar experience levels in each class. The locations that are a substantial driving distance from Edmonton will be looked at on an individual basis. Next season the minimum age for attending a single day clinic will increase to 18 years old before Jan 1/2010. As well the official must have been registered this season, the same as in the past. This change was decided on last season and was increased one year at a time in order to not have officials attend a single day clinic and then have to go back to a two day. There are no plans on increasing the age after this, so the officials who were one year away from attending a single day clinic for the last couple years will finally be able to attend a single day clinic in 2010. With the absence of the ice session in the single day clinic in combination with the lower exam marks achieved it was felt the younger officials were not getting enough experience to go on and officiate with confidence.

There is a tentative schedule already made up for next season and it will be ready for the RIC meeting in January.

I would like to thank Dean Ziegler who did the majority of the work with the clinics this season and will be doing the clinics next season.

**Don Buskas**  
Clinic Coordinator  
[clinics@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:clinics@northzone.ab.ca)

## Development

Individuals interested in improving their officiating skills and learning valuable information to bring back to their local centers are invited to apply to the development program. This program provides an opportunity for persons between the ages of 18 and 30 to officiate top-level hockey while obtaining valuable instruction for both on and off-ice skills.

The first step in the development process is attendance at the Alberta Cup Selection Camp. The camp is scheduled to be held in Edmonton on March 27-29, 2009. At this camp officials will participate in on and off-ice testing as well as officiate games as both a referee and a linesman. Instruction and evaluation is provided to the officials based upon their performance. From this camp two officials are selected to officiate at the Alberta Cup from April 22-26 in Calgary.

A group of officials from the Alberta Cup Selection Camp are also selected to attend Development Camp in Camrose. This is a week-long camp in July where participants become highly involved in all aspects of officiating. Agenda topics include standard items such as procedures, positioning, techniques, and rule knowledge; but also include on and off-ice fitness testing and specialty seminars delivered by experts in particular areas of hockey (i.e. nutrition, coaching, top-level officiating, etc.) This week is the pinnacle in the development process of up and coming officials.

If you are interested in attending these camps or require additional information please check the North Zone web site or contact me directly. The deadline for applications is February 23, 2009.

**Lance Hyndman**  
[development@northzone.ab.ca](mailto:development@northzone.ab.ca)



## FEMALE

We are now half way through another great hockey season. Christmas tourneys are almost here and playoffs and provincials are just around the corner.

The female program has seen an increase in the number officials wanting to officiate in the female game. The guys and gals working in the program are doing a wonderful job and having a lot of fun doing it. Thank you's go out to everyone for their excellent work ethic and interest in our great game.

Luanna Heselwood is now undertaking the majority of the assigning. She is assigning both NAFHA and the Sr. Program. A reminder to all officials, if you accept game assignments, then we expect you to do the games. We frown on games being returned. If you have a good reason why you need to return a game, then you need to deliver that message to the assignor, with a minimum of 48 hours notice. Re-assigning games to other officials, without the assigner's approval, is not acceptable.

All officials are expected to be at their games on time. You are expected to be at the arena in advance of game start times: NAFHA – 30 min.; ACAC – 45 min.; CIS & WWHL – 1 hour.

Congratulations goes out to Arron Best for her great performance at the U18 Female National Championships held in Napanee, Ontario, November 5 to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 where she worked the Bronze Game. Congrats Arron for a job well done! Ask Arron about her bowling ability and her talent in nailing the "head pin".

Enjoy your Christmas everyone. See you at the rink.

**Karen Kost**  
**Female Program Coordinator**

## EMHA AND MINOR COMMITTEE

The Edmonton AA hockey program is off to another good start. There have been a few complaints from the EMHA but overall the officials are doing a good job. Minor Committee has met several times to review and add officials to our lists. There has been plenty of movement once again this year. Officials are moving up the lists and we have new officials and out of town officials being added to our program.

I would also like to remind all officials working the AA program that you must dress appropriately (collared shirt and dress pants and no ball caps). You must also show up a minimum of 30 minutes prior to game time. If you take an assignment it is yours to keep. If you have to cancel, a minimum of 48 hrs is required with a good reason for canceling. So before you take an assignment check your schedule to make sure you're available. No shows and late cancellations continue to be a problem and are unacceptable. If there is a no show in one of your games, one official is to call Herman Costa (Minor Committee chairman) or their assignor within 48 Hrs. All officials who do not abide by these rules will be turned over to the discipline committee.

Also with Christmas coming we all know it is tournament time. There is the Bantam AA and AAA tournament in Callingwood arena, Bill Kurucz Midget AA and Mid 15 AAA minor tournament at the CAC arena and the Mid 15 AA Minor will also hold a tournament at River Cree. There will also be many Federation tournaments in the city of Edmonton this holiday season. Please help out the assignors by taking some games, it is a very busy time for everyone and with your help it will make the assignors jobs much easier. We will be using 4 assignors for the Christmas tournaments. Please let me or your assignor know that you are available to help out. The assignors for the Christmas tournaments are as follows; Jay Crockett for Bantam 'AA' and 'AAA' lines at Callingwood, Sanjeev Bhargrath referees for Bantam 'AA' and 'AAA' at Callingwood and Jonathan Button for Midget 'AA' and Midget 'AAA' Minor at CAC Arena and Midget 'AA' Minor at River Cree referee and lines assignor for both tournaments.

If anyone has any concerns during the season regarding rinks, coaches, fans, teams or if you have any questions about the AA city program, please feel free to call or email me.

Keep up the good work and Have a safe holiday season.

**Herman Costa**  
**EMHA Referee Representative**  
**Minor Committee Chairman**