

Northern Stripes



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Scott Fulmer, Derek Crowley and Romus Lam pause for a photo op during a National Women's / MAAA game.

I can't believe we are already half way through the season. Seems like yesterday it was still summer. Its been a great start to this hockey season across the zone. We have had a tremendous number of officials selected to prestigious assignments. These include:

Derek Crowley: Fraser Lawrence and Kevin Ward selected to the U16 Western Canadian Tournament in Blackfalds, AB.

Chris Carlson: U18 world championships in Belarus for April 2010.

Lacey Senuk: Female Under 18 Nationals in Surrey, BC November 4 to 8.

Derek Zalaski: World Junior Championships in Saskatchewan, Canada from Dec 26 - Jan 5

Colin Watt: World Under 17 Hockey Challenge being held in Timmins, Ontario from December 28th through January 4th, 2-10

Games in all leagues will increase in importance in the second half. We as officials must remember to brush up on our rules and procedures as we head to playoffs and provincials.

I would like to make a special note here and encourage everyone to get out to the rinks and help our fellow officials. Supervisions and shadows are a big component in our development program. Please take the time and help our fellow officials. There are a lot of tournaments over the Christmas period. This is a great time to get to the rink and watch some great hockey as well.

A special thanks to our executive, local referees in chiefs, assignors and all our volunteers who run their local organizations. We would not be as strong as we are without you. Keep up the great work!

Have a great holiday season and all the best in the New Year!

Kumail Moledina, Chairman
chairman@northzone.ab.ca



SPECIAL EVENTS

There have been 2 novice jamborees (Stony Plain and Drayton Valley) to date with another 2 scheduled for Edmonton (Nov 29) and Wetaskiwin (Dec 12).

These events are for novice players and their parents where the parents go to a session with a coach to work on parent/coach relationships and then attend a session with a referee instructor to work on ways the parents as fans can help keep young officials in the officiating program. They are shown a video about a young official at his first game and then discuss reasons that young officials both start, and quit officiating. There are some very interesting discussion points and hopefully it will help keep some of the young officials in the program longer.

There will be a mini clinic held in conjunction with the Edmonton Oil Kings in Jan or Feb, but the date has not been set yet.

Mini clinics are also available if your association would like to have an instructor come and work on any items that you feel you may need some help with. These are very informal sessions that last about 2 hr with usually an hour of ice time and then a question and answer session. Contact me if you wish to host one.

Don Buskas
Special Events Coordinator

EMHA AND MINOR COMMITTEE

Hello everyone I hope you're having a great hockey season so far. The Edmonton AA hockey program is off to another good start. There have been very few complaints from the EMHA this season so keep up the good work. Minor Committee has met several times to review, add and delete officials from our lists.

We have seen plenty of movement once again with officials moving up the lists and with new officials as well as officials coming from out of town being added to our program.

I would 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 will 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. The Bantam AA and AAA tournament in Callingwood arena. Bill Kurucz Midget AA and Mid 15 AAA minor tournament at the CAC arena. 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 or 5 assignors for the Christmas tournaments. Please let myself or your assignors know that you are available to help out.

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. I will see you at the rink.

Herman Costa
Minor Committee Chairman & EMHA Referee Representative

NORTH ZONE EXECUTIVE

Chairman:

Kumail Moledina

Vice Chairman:

Lance Hyndman

Treasurer:

Dave Butler

Secretary:

Ryan Weyland

Directors:

Ryan Petryshyn

Gary Tremblay

Cory Kokotailo

Colin Watt

Senior Referees:

Dwayne Yakubow

Senior Linesmen:

Guy Doucet

Supervisions & Shadow Program:

Kevin Adam

Clinic Coordinator:

Dean Ziegler

CJHL Liaison:

Cory Moser

Match Penalties Representative:

Lance Hyndman

EMHA Representative:

Herman Costa

Federation Representative:

Duncan MacDougall

Female Hockey:

Karen Kost

MAAA/Jr B Ref Supervisor:

Gary Tremblay

MAAA/Jr B Linesman Supervisor:

Ryan Petryshyn

CIS/ AJHL Supervisor:

Mike Rebus

Past Zone Chairman:

Ray Keller

West Regional Coordinator:

Doug Laboucane

Provincial Chairman:

Wally Popik

STURGEON COUNTY HOCKEY

The season is in full swing for Bon Accord, Gibbons, Morinville and Legal and so far we have had no trouble filling games. I would like to thank Ken Dentzien for all his help especially when I was on holidays, also for all his officials who have worked games this season for me. Some of the officials I would like to thank for doing over 15 games this season all ready are Clayton Brown, Trevor Stoklosa, Mark Van Der Kly, Leyton Clark, Karrah Stephen, Greg Christensen, Brock Mulligan and Craig Dziwenka.

If you have interest in traveling to these center please fell free to email refassignor@hotmail.com and I can try and get you some games.

Ryan Dutka—Ref Assignor

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YOUR LATEST NORTHZONE
INFO & UPDATES**

WWW.NORTHZONE.AB.CA



Adam Deborba makes a clean exit from a face-off at Medicine Hat's BAAA tournament



HOCKEY CANADA BULLETIN—H1N1

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Hockey Canada would like to emphasize that the information distributed in bulletin I10-03 related to the H1N1 virus has not changed with respect to recommendations around its prevention.

Saying this, we have had numerous enquiries with respect to **shaking hands with** team officials at the beginning of the game as part of the FAIR PLAY INITIATIVE.

Although the spread of germs can be done in many forms, and simply not shaking hands doesn't in itself eliminate the spread, it is entirely up to your Branch or Associations as to what you dictate around shaking hands with team officials. If your organization decides to identify other options to replace handshaking we would recommend asking officials to verbally greet team officials at the bench. Keep in mind we still stress that promoting the preventative guidelines distributed is as important.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 613-562-5677 extension #2323.

Sincerely

Todd Jackson
Senior Manager, Safety and Insurance
Hockey Canada

SHADOW / SUPERVISION

The North Zone Supervision Program is off to a relatively good start. The following statistics are current as of November 25, 2009

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

Location	September	October	November	Total
Ardrossan			2	2
Beaumont		13	12	25
Bonaccord		1		1
Calmar		2	1	3
Camrose		6	10	16
Edmonton	18	140	129	287
Fort McMurray		18	45	63
Fort Saskatchewan		22	10	32
Fox Creek			3	3
Gibbons		2		2
Leduc	1	2	9	12
Morinville		6	5	11
Sherwood Park	6	8	21	35
Spruce Grove	2	17	4	23
St. Albert	3	26	16	45
Stony Plain	2	2	6	10
Tofield			3	3
Vegreville		4		4
Wetaskiwin			3	3
Whitecourt	2	23	31	56
Grand Total	34	292	310	636

Total Number of Supervisions Completed	636
Number of Active Supervisors	114
Number of Officials Supervised	413
Number of Mentorship (Shadow) Supervisions	173

The breakdown by level of official supervised is as follows:

Month	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Totals
September	7	25	2		34
October	138	127	26	1	292
November	151	122	31	5	309
Grand Total	296	274	59	6	636



Just a friendly reminder to please submit your supervision forms as soon as possible, either by e-mail to 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 757-9347 or by simply bringing 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.

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, and it looks like the new and existing supervisors are off to an outstanding start.

If you are in need of someone to come and watch you and check your progress, please e-mail me and we will 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.

Kevin Adam
Supervisions / Shadow Coordinator
supervisions@northzone.ab.ca

FEDERATION NOTES

A BIG CONCERN

There is a large surplus of officials in the Edmonton BB program this season. The problem is greatest for entry level officials. There is not enough hockey to offer these officials more than 2 or 3 games per month. Considering the premium this shortage of games places on assignments, all officials must insure that assignments are kept. There must not be any no shows. If you cannot do the game that you committed to do, contact your assignor by telephone in order that someone else can have an opportunity.

GIVING BACK

The Edmonton Minor Hockey Association's Quikcard Minor Hockey Week Tournament is January 15 to 24, 2010. This is a very large tournament with a great deal of exciting hockey. All officials donate their officiating time. Please participate when asked or better yet call a Federation assignor and volunteer. Get involved. Referee for free!

RAMP

The computer assigning system works most efficiently if you the official participate. This means FREQUENTLY visiting your mailbox for potential assignment. REGULARLY entering and updating your dark times. PROMPTLY accepting or declining potential assignments. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in you receiving fewer assignments.

ATOM 4 ON 4

Hockey Alberta and the Edmonton Minor Hockey Association held a 4 on 4 Atom tournament on November 1, 2009 at Coronation Arena. Six officials worked the half ice shinny games. The officials assigned were Cody Mathews, Brendon Gore, Jonathan Kikuchi, Travis Preston, Mark Grundy and Deane Woywitka.

THE SEASON

League play began on October 7, 2009. Round 1 play concluded on November 27, 2009. Round 2 began play on November 28, 2009 and concludes on January 14, 2010. Round 3 will commence on January 25, 2010. The playoff round will be in March 2010. The Edmonton – Calgary Provincial playoff in Midget Tier 1 and 2, Bantam Tier 1 and 2 and Pee wee Tier 2 will be in Edmonton in March 2010.

RULE EMPHASIS

The Hockey Canada rule emphasis for 2009 – 2010 is checking to the head. All officials must work to insure that high hit violations are penalized. Review your guidelines for severity of the high hit and your penalty options depending upon the severity of the hit. Continue to enforce the standard of play. If you see a rule violation, assess the appropriate penalty. The severity of the violation, the time of the penalty in 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 continue to be 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 consequences occur, the referee must assess a penalty when he sees the consequences of a player having entered the danger zone.

Duncan MacDougall
Federation Coordinator

FEDERATION DISTRICT REFEREE

COORDINATORS

North East District	Bill Clark
North West District	Duncan MacDougall
South West District	Gary Greenough
South East District	Ron Oscroft
Knights of Columbus	Darryl Desjarlais
Edmonton Girls	Karen Kost

SENIOR ASSIGNORS

Wow... it's hard to believe that we are coming into December and the hockey season is about half way over!!

So far the season is coming along nicely, after the hectic month of September. All leagues are underway, with the last being the Battle River hockey League, which started the 3rd weekend in October.

As always, PLEASE keep us updated with your dark days as this makes things much easier when we have last minute cancellations. So far we have had quite a number of cancellations due to sickness so it definitely makes things easier when we can look at our lists and see who is available for that particular night and only make one call or e-mail instead of making 3 or 4 to assign a game. A HUGE thanks goes out to those officials who have taken last minute assignments and who have kept us updated with their dark days. Linesmen... remember to contact your referee 48 hours before game time to notify that you are with him. Referees... if you don't hear anything from your linesmen 24 hours before game time please contact Guy to find out who the linesmen should be. Referees if you have cancelled a game and still receive a call or message from a linesman please let them know that the game has been re-assigned.

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. Remember that you never know who is in the stands watching your game; keep working hard and show professionalism.

As always, December is a quieter month for senior assignments. If you are looking for some games during the Christmas Break, please feel free to contact Duncan McDougall or Herman Costa as they have lots of games that need covering for tournaments and they will definitely appreciate the help!

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.

Dwayne Yakubow-Referee Assignor (sr-ref@northzone.ab.ca) & Guy Doucet-Linesmen Assignor (sr-lines@northzone.ab.ca)

SENIOR COMMITTEE

The first half of the season was a very busy one in the senior program. There has been considerable movement once again in the program, particularly on the linesman side this season. We had many retirees and officials relocate in the off-season.

The supervision program will continue for the senior program. Your first three games were due by the November general meeting and the next three by the January general meeting. It is imperative that these requirements are met if you want to continue to work in the program. It is important we continue to give back to fellow officials through the form of supervisions. This is how we all improve and is the most powerful way to help in improving our program.

The number of discipline issues has been very disappointing. Please ensure you are following all the required procedures and protocols within the program. Ensure you are in touch with your assigners if you have any issues or concerns. Linesmen please ensure you make your 48 hour phone call to your referees and referees please inquire if you have not heard from your linesmen 24 hours before game time.

The quality of write-up reports needs to improve. Please ensure you are writing your reports as detailed as possible. There seems to be a slip in this area as the number of complaints from the leagues has drastically risen.

Most weekends continue to be a challenge for our assignors due to the amount of hockey, especially on Friday and Saturday nights. This will continue after Christmas so please continue to work closely with the assignors and make yourself available when you can. Good luck to all officials and continue the good work!

Have a good season!

Kumail Moledina, Chairman
chairman@northzone.ab.ca

CLINIC INFORMATION

By the time the newsletter goes to print, the clinic season will have come to a close.

We started the season with six 1-day classes being held at Grant MacEwan university downtown and by all reports and comments; it was a very good choice to have used this facility. The only drawback that I had heard about was the parking and the lack of signage letting everyone know where the classes were being held. A second date, October 17th & 18th were also used to get as many of our remaining officials registered. A huge thank you goes out to Fraser Lawrence for his help in pre-registering the officials for those classes.

This year we ran approximately 76 clinics across the zone. By all accounts, our numbers are up from last year which caused us some headaches as we ran out of supplies which is not necessarily a bad thing since next year is a rule change year, but it caused some trouble in trying to make sure our instructors had enough supplies to instruct the final clinics.

We will be holding an instructor meeting on December 14th to get feedback from each of the instructors about how they thought the clinics went this year as well as get some feedback from them to find out how we can improve our clinic program in the zone. We will also be talking about the clinic schedule next year as we will start to incorporate more e-learning clinics into our program. I will also be in contact with all the local RIC's so that we can start to plan our clinics for next year, keeping them in the loop and getting any ideas or suggestions from them.

Thank you to Mike Rebus, who took on the lead role in the pilot project for the e-learning this year. Mike ran one e-learning class at the Southeast zone clinic and from all accounts, it was a success. With some help from Mike, Craig Miller ran a 2nd e-learning class in Beaumont on Saturday, November 21st.

Thank you to Jim Bassingthwaite for his contribution of putting our clinic kits together this year as this is a very tough job to do especially when you are not only instructing, but also officiating, plus holding down a full-time job.

In closing, I think we did a very good job this season with our clinics and I look forward to working with everyone again next year. I would also like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement, especially Kumail and Lance.

Dean Ziegler

North Zone Clinic Coordinator

clinics@northzone.ab.ca

RECLASSIFICATION

A reminder to all officials who are looking to be reclassified to a higher level for the 2010-11 season, to get their information in by January 1, 2010 to me. Details are available on our website, www.northzone.ab.ca.

Kumail Moledina, Chairman
chairman@northzone.ab.ca



REMINDER:

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

General Meetings will be held at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Edmonton Inn) in the Ridgewood Room. Please note the room for this season. It is located on the second floor of the Ramada Inn. The dates for this seasons meetings are as follows.

Meeting Dates

January 18

February 22

April 19 (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.

MATCH PENALTY ON OFFICIAL

A handful of match penalties on officials have been reported to date. While this is down from previous years it is my opinion that even one of these penalties is "one too many." This is the most severe penalty in the rule book so it is important that you are assessing the proper penalty based upon the infraction.

Do not confuse the match penalty on an official with the match penalty on a player. A match penalty on a player is assessed when there is a deliberate attempt to injure. Whereas a match penalty on official is assessed only under the following four instances:

Spitting - A Match penalty shall be assessed any player or team official who deliberately spits on or at an opponent, official, team official or spectator.

Verbal threat or attempted strike - Any player or team official who threatens or attempts to strike a Referee, Linesman, or any Off-ice Official; before during or after a game shall be assessed a Match penalty.

Pushing or holding - any player or team official, who intentionally touches, holds or pushes a Referee, Linesman, or Off-ice Official; before, during or after a game shall be assessed a Match penalty.

Striking - Any player or team official who deliberately strikes, trips or body checks a Referee, Linesman, or Off-ice Official; before during or after a game shall be assessed a Match Penalty.

*For all these situations, you must ensure that the intent of the action was directed towards one of the officials and not another player, coach or fan.

If one of the four incidents above should occur then you must follow the procedure laid out by Hockey Alberta. The details of this were provided at your clinic or they can be accessed on the North Zone website at http://www.northzone.ab.ca/match_penalties.htm.

There are times where a match penalty on an official can be avoided by remaining calm, identifying yourself accordingly, and staying back from situations that could result in the calling of this penalty. It is important that you read and react to what is happening and either diffuse the situation through communication or move to an area where it is less likely for an incident to occur.

Hopefully I will not have to speak with you in regards to this penalty. Enjoy the remainder of the officiating season and Happy Holidays.

Lance Hyndman

Vice Chairman / Match Penalty Coordinator

match@northzone.ab.ca

DISCIPLINE

22 incidents to date \$262 in fines

There have been too many "NO SHOWS" this year and most have been due to people not remembering their games. Please make sure to write down your games somewhere so you don't forget about them. Also please adhere to the 48 hour rule for calling your refs and this will stop the no shows from happening. If you don't want the games let your assignors know and they can take you off their list.

Gary Tremblay, Discipline



Northzone official Darren Spurgeon takes in the view from top up at a recent Oil Kings game

TREASURER CENTS

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. Don't rely on your information being updated when you take your clinic, depending on our workload and where you take your clinic, it could take until mid January to have your record 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, phone number, and email address with the treasurer. Please visit

<http://northzone.ab.ca/AddressChange>

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 partners does not show, you need to tell your assignor so your pay can be adjusted.

Dave Butler, Treasurer
treasurer@northzone.ab.ca

REFEREE IN CHIEFS



The first half of the season has come and gone and things seem to be going well in the rural areas of the zone. While some centers seem to be struggling to find officials to cover games there is a great amount of communication amongst assignors and referee in chiefs which is helping to ensure that the games get covered. I must commend all these individuals for their hard work as it would be terribly unfortunate if games were cancelled due to inability to find officials.

We had a great turnout for our September meeting where we discussed everything from clinics to supervisions to recruitment and retention of officials. The next meeting will be after the New Year in January. Details will be forwarded to all referee in chiefs once the date and location has been confirmed.

A few questions that I have received to date that I would like to share are as follows:

Q. If an official has received a suspension as a player, can they still referee?

A. No. Suspended players that are officials are suspended from all hockey. Therefore they cannot play or officiate until their suspension has been served. The suspension is effective from the time of notification. In some cases it may be immediate (if so indicated by the rulebook).

Q. If an official is injured and unable to play hockey, can they still referee?

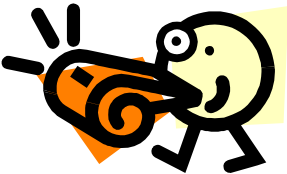
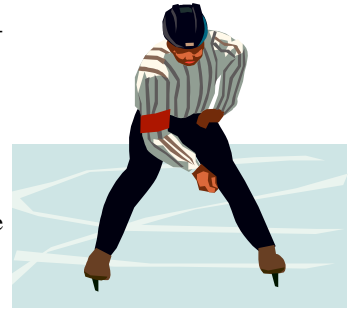
A. Yes, however the official needs to be aware that they could cause further injury to themselves. It may be a good idea to have them discuss this with their doctor. They also need to be aware of the injury and to act accordingly when dealing with players. The greatest drawback to this would be further injury and as such the official needs to accept assignments accordingly.

Should you need to discuss any other issues, do not hesitate to contact me. Hope to see everyone in the New Year.

Lance Hyndman

Vice Chairman / Match Penalty Coordinator

vicechair@northzone.ab.ca



ALBERTA CUP

Hello everyone, I hope this newsletter finds you in full swing of the hockey season and in mid season form.

This is a reminder that you should be contacting me as soon as possible to get your Alberta Cup application package. The deadline of January 1, 2010 is fast approaching and you would hate to miss an opportunity to attend the Alberta Cup right here in our zone in Leduc.

The ID camp will be March 26 - 28, where approximately 12 North zone officials are supervised in hopes of reaching the Alberta Cup. This years Alberta Cup is set to go in Leduc April 21 - 25, right here in the North zone, so making it to that tournament will be great for the selected officials.

The early deadline for applications this year gives our committee time to get out and see each individual applicant. This process will allow us to select the best fit officials for the ID camp.

Please contact myself through the North zone website if you are interested in attending this year's camp and I look forward to watching you work in the New Year.

Cory Kokotailo

Alberta Cup / Development Coordinator