



Edmonton Basketball Officials Association

TipOff

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From the President

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Basketball Season!

The EBOA Executive has spent a great deal of time preparing for the upcoming season. We are undertaking a number of initiatives that will be rolled out over the next few months. The most significant is the implementation of the new National Officials Certification Program (NOCP) introduced by the Canadian Association of Basketball Officials (CABO). In addition to the NOCP, we are continuing to build on the great success we had last year with the mentorship and evaluation program, and revamping our website so that members have a better experience accessing the information and resources they need. At each General Meeting, we will be exposing members to different modules of the NOCP, as well as different training tools that have been developed by Karen Lasuik, Susan Yackabowski and others.

We have made a number of changes to the Executive as a result of resignations over the off-season. First let me say thank-you to Alan Ward (former Past President), Fred Goldring (former Junior Development Officer), Kathy Ross (former Secretary), as well as Warren Maskoske (who completed his term as Vice-President).

The Association needs great people to be able to move forward on the day-to-day activities. I am very proud of the Executive that will be overseeing the Association this year. Serving on the Executive for the 2009-2010 season are: Stephane Labonne (President), Leo Mangano (Vice-President), Gary Nahornick (Past President), Kande O'Leary (Secretary), John Byrne (Member-at-Large), Gil Desmerais (Assignor), Franco Panizzon (Junior Assignor), Ed Harasem (Community League Assignor), Karen Lasuik (Education and Development Officer) and Susan Yackabowski (Jr. Education and Development Officer) and Kent Heine (Treasurer).

See you at the October 27 General Meeting.

Stephane Labonne, President

Treasurer Report

Another season is upon us. The year end financial statements have been completed. Please let me know if you would like to receive a copy via e-mail at heinek@shaw.ca.

Work on the budget is well underway by the Executive. This will be reported on during the October 27th general meeting. Pay night will be the last Saturday in May again this year.

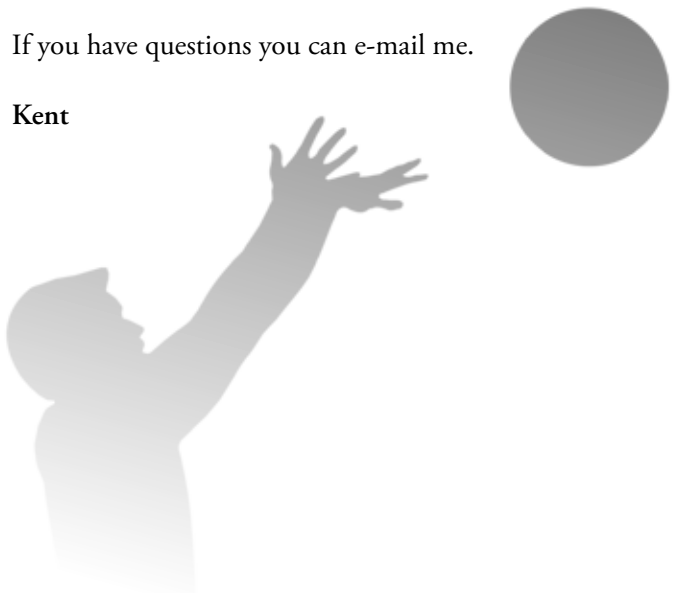
Advance requests for payment of games to date will be accepted starting in December. Please advise me via e-mail at heinek@shaw.ca of your desire for an advance. You must provide me with your Arbiter logon e-mail and password so I can determine your game fees to date. If you don't provide me this information I will need to ask you for it. This will result in delays in getting your advance to you.

The calculation for an advance is as follows:

Game fees earned to date – 25% holdback – Charged dues and any other charges = Maximum Advance Available. You can request less than the maximum.

If you have questions you can e-mail me.

Kent





2009 WINK WILLOX AWARD



Daryl Paustian

Alberta's nominee for the prestigious Wink Willox Award of Merit for 2009 is an Honorary Life Member of the Edmonton Board (EBOA).

He was active for most of his career in both able bodied and wheelchair basketball officiating. He began officiating in Edmonton in the mid 70's and became actively involved with wheelchair officiating and coaching a few years later.

This official worked at the ACAC (CCAA) level from 1977 - 2001 and at the Canada West (CIS) level from 1979 - 2000. During his 30+ year career as an active member of the ABOA, this official was a consistent high performer locally at the high school level and participated in many ASAA Provincial Championships including three 4A Boys Finals in Lethbridge, Grand Prairie and Calgary (1998). This official also participated in several national tournaments including:

1987 - Junior Men's (U19) National Championships in Lethbridge
1989 - CCAA Women's Nationals in Grand Prairie

With respect to his wheelchair officiating, this individual has participated in numerous Canadian championships, too many to mention here. On the international scene, some of his highlights include:

1995 - Received his International Certification (Saskatoon)
1996 - America's Qualifications Tournaments for the Paralympics (Argentina)
1997 - World Junior Championships (Toronto)
1998 - America's Zone Qualifications for the World Championships (Winnipeg)
1999 - America's Qualifications Tournament for the Paralympics (Mexico)

Daryl also travelled to Macao where he conducted FIBA and wheelchair clinics for Chinese officials. This educational trip was facilitated as a result of a very strong relationship between the Chinese community in Edmonton and Macao.

In addition, this official also found time to work in various Executive and volunteer capacities, both locally in Edmonton as well as with the ABOA.

He served as EBOA President from 1985 - 1987
He served as EBOA Past President from 1987 - 1989
He served as EBOA Vice President from 1998 - 2000

He also served as a Member of the ABOA Evaluation Committee for the last 12 years.

I feel that I would be remiss by not mentioning how much of a giver this year's recipient was in all aspects of his daily life. Notably, he was actively involved with the Alberta Northern Lights Basketball Organization, serving as their President from 2004 - 2008. In addition to his presidential duties, our nominee volunteered in a number of other capacities where needed, and was a great asset in recently seeing their organization through some very difficult financial times.

This year's Wink Willox Award Winner for the Province of Alberta is Daryl Paustian.

To the best of my knowledge, this is the first time that this award has been given to an individual posthumously. For those who are not aware, Daryl succumbed to cancer on August 15th at the age of 56 and he will be greatly missed by the countless people whose lives he touched.

Junior Development - Mentorship Program

Mentorship Program The Mentorship Program is underway. With much success of responses of members we have 74 members lined up to participate within the 2009-2010 Mentorship Program. Almost everyone that applied was able to get at their top choice! Please remember once you receive your confirmation email from me, you have 1 week to contact your Mentor. The first evaluation is due to me no later than December 31, 2009 and you must receive a copy of your evaluation within 2 weeks from your game being assessed. Please be aware there is a Mentor's Page on our website (<http://theeboa.com/mentor.php>) that discusses the details of the Program and Mentor's List.

Novice Clinic

The Novice clinic this year was a great success! First year officials were able to experience a bit of the new NOCP which included power point presentations, on court interactions and use of specific DVDs to add to the variety of learning. Many new faces were brought on board to both the Community and EBOA sides of officiating. Thank you to Ed for the use of Rosslyn School. Next Novice clinic is scheduled for October 24, 2009 at Arch Bishop Jordan High School from 9- 4:30 pm. New Community and EBOA officials are welcome to attend. Please contact Ed to confirm your attendance.

Susan Yackabowski
Junior Development Officer



Message from the Vice President

Welcome back to another exciting season of Basketball Officiating. This year marks the 60th year for the EBOA, established way back in 1950! Throughout the year, we will be celebrating this milestone with stories about our past from our long time officials. In addition, to commemorate this event, we are planning a little something for all members. Our social events calendar has been finalized with the following dates:

Christmas Social

Sunday December 13, at Joey's at Mayfield Common

Provincials/Nationals Nite

Sunday February 21, at Original Joe's

Awards/Pay Nite

Saturday May 29, Time & Place to be confirmed

All EBOA Members and their significant others are cordially invited to attend. Details on each event will be made available well before each date. Shannon Taylor &

Lisa Giesinger have been very instrumental in helping to coordinate and organize these events on behalf of the EBOA. Another exciting happen this year is the revamping of our web site. Together with our webmaster Orville Chubb, Shannon Taylor, and Lisa Giesinger, we plan to have a new lay-out which will provide the already useful information reorganized in a simplified and attractive format. The new site will be launched before the end of this calendar year.

New EBOA Clothing coming! The EBOA will be offering new clothing this year. Jackets and Golf Shirts will be made available for purchase later this month. Kent Heine, our Treasurer, will allow you to charge your purchase against your game fees. Watch for the Clothing Order Form on the web site.

Have a great Season!

Leo Mangano
Vice President



In The Know

It's here! Another season is upon us. Are you ready for it? How's your fitness level? Have you dusted off that rulebook and cracked it open yet?

Most officials have had an opportunity having to attend a clinic or portion thereof. That said, if you fall in the category of not attended a clinic as of yet, you have an opportunity to do so on Saturday, November 21st, from 9:00-4:00pm at Rosslyn Jr. High School.

We have not ordered new rule books for the season. If you are in need of one, you can try Basketball Alberta, as they may have some copies. You can also download and print a copy of it off of the FIBA website, or order the actual rulebook from the FIBA Store.

Here are a few thoughts as you approach the upcoming season:
Remember, you are never...

- So experienced you have seen everything.
- So smart you cannot learn something.
- So good you cannot mentor someone.
- So sure you cannot miss a call.
- So proud you cannot admit to making a mistake.
- So superior you cannot talk to others.
- So worthy, someone else should not get "the game".
- So perfect you should not seek help when needed.

Have a great start, everyone!

Karen Lasuik, EDO



Dealing With Confrontation

- **Work On Creating A Rapport**

Introduce Yourself To The Coaches Before The Game Begins

- **When dealing with emotional coaches remember to:**

Be in control and speak in a calm, easy voice

- **Maintain positive body language and keep space between you and the Coach/Player.**

- **Make eye contact with the coach/player when the situation allows.**

- **Answer questions not Statements**

- 3 Seconds!
- That is a Travel!
- That is a Hold!

- **Be a responder not an Initiator.**

- **Deal with the Behaviour before answering any Questions.**

- **Roadblocks to Communication:**

- Ordering
- Directing
- Commanding
- Yelling
- "If you do that again I'll 'T' YOU UP"
- Warning, Threatening

• A coach knows the tone of the response even before you start speaking by observing your body language. Sometimes we lose them before we even say a word.

• If you make a face, raise your hands in defense or scowl, you've probably lost them already. Watch how you talk with your hands and don't let a coach use his hands to talk to you.

• When a person talks with his hands it appears there is more going on than a simple discussion about a simple play. If you see a coach waving his hands, simply ask him to put his hands down before you are ready to listen to his message.

- **Tips to being a good listener:**

- Do not Interrupt
- Try to be Relaxed
- Keep good Eye Contact
- Avoid the conflict (Don't create it)
- Address the problem only (No emotions)
- Don't be Defensive, or try to justify your Actions

- **Officiating is not about the referee being the only Winner...**

- Nor is it about the referee being the only Loser,
- A balance between the TWO Extremes needs to be Achieved
- You do not always have to get in the Last Word

- **Answers to Coaches**

- "Okay Coach I hear you"
- "From my angle that is how I saw it"
- "I will watch for that"
- It will not help matters if you tell the coach that it is not happening

- **Some Other Phrases That Can Be Used Are:**

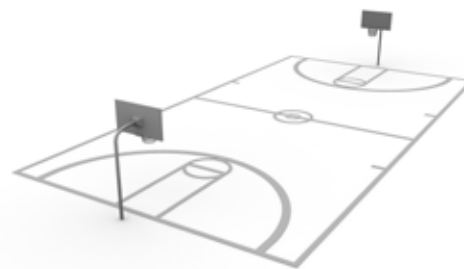
- "I see your point"
- "You have a good point"
- "I've heard you"
- "That's possible"

• By listening first and then responding to what they said, there may be some closure after your words

• If a coach is yelling or shouting at you tell the coach you would be glad to talk to him but he has to lower his or her voice and then you can address the issue.

• Remember, 90% of conflict occurs not with what was said but by the TONE it was said in!

- **TAKE YOUR GAME MANAGEMENT TO A NEW LEVEL**





From the Assignor...

Based on the information we have at the moment, it appears we lost 30+ officials from last year's roster and have recruited 30+ new members. So the net result is no significant change in our numbers this year. That tells me we're going to have another very busy time December thru February. If the past is any indication, EBOA members will step up when asked and will provide exceptional service to our clients.

All we have at this time is EBA, U of A intramurals, and the St. Albert mens league (not counting ACAC which affects only a small number of us).

A few officials have called me to ask why their schedules are so limited. I've done my best to correct any deficiencies there may have been and hope I have properly addressed their concerns. If you feel similarly, don't hesitate to contact me. I want nothing but happy campers throughout the association.

As always, check your e-mail every day and contact your partner before every game.

Make the call.

Gil

Assistant Assignor

Looking back over the summer, I want to thank everyone that participated in this year's NBA 3on3. The EBOA membership was able to cover all games scheduled over the two day event. The weather cooperated and a good time was had by all. The EBOA received thank you letters from Basketball Alberta and from Maple Leaf Sports for a job well done!

Welcome back for another exciting year of Junior High Basketball. Already, the EBOA have received about a dozen requests for Junior High tournaments in 2010.

Last year, there was significant interest and success in using the self-assign feature in Arbiter for Junior High games. Based on those results, we plan to use that feature again this basketball season.

As always, check your e-mail regularly and contact your partner prior to the game.

Franco

From the Past President

As Past President, my main objective this fall has been to compile an orientation booklet for EBOA. The purpose of this booklet has been to familiarize our members with the duties of the executive and to identify executive members. This orientation booklet has also been prepared to enable members to understand how the organization operates, how games are assigned (arbiter), how evaluations are given and what to do before game time. Another important aspect that this booklet covers is the new NOCP certification program (clinic), type of awards the EBOA give out at the end of the year, and what to do before getting to the gym, including: confirming with your partner.

The EBOA website, has many different links such as: Tool kit (practice exams), community corner, calendar (dates of events: including socials), newsletters (latest and past editions), forum where you can discuss game situations with other members and other useful basketball links. I would like to thank Alan Ward for his help with starting this booklet last year and his assistance this year with printing the booklet. This orientation booklet is now available on the EBOA website. So go ahead and Check it out!

One of my responsibilities is to recruit people for future positions. If you or anyone you know is interested in getting involved in the executive, please call me at 780-709-1240 (cell) or e-mail me at gnahornick@shaw.ca I wish everyone a GREAT basketball season. May you all aspire to and achieve your desired goals.

Gary Nahornick
Past-President

Christmas Social

Joey's at Mayfield Common
December 13th, 5-9pm,
Cost will be \$15 per person.

More details to follow!





Hoops for Thought

1. **Did I Blow any calls?** Blowing calls will always occur regardless of an official's experience and expertise. It is simply not a perfectible craft. It is however, inexcusable for an official to continue making the same kinds of mistakes or mistakes with the same frequency throughout his/her career. The purpose of self-evaluation is to eliminate certain kinds of errors and to reduce their overall frequency. By identifying your blown calls, you can begin to learn why you blew them and how to avoid blowing the same calls in the future. Learning from mistakes and understanding them is part of the process. Have someone come and evaluate you. Have a friend videotape you during a game and you will gain an appreciation for what others see. Work with more experienced officials.

2. **Did I make the right calls for the WRONG REASONS?** All officials make calls on occasion that turn out OK even though those calls may have been the result of ignorance, guesswork or just blind luck. It is one thing to be thankful for those results, but it is something else to rely on them. Officials who are sincerely interested in improving their work should lessen such a dependency. Luck has a way of running out eventually. One needs to also understand that we don't need to control every aspect of the game. Allow for freedom up to a certain point and if things interfere with the game, then step in. Understand the grey areas of the game and not just the black and white of the rules or the X and O's of the floor mechanics. Understand the rules and their concepts and making sure you are moving with a purpose not for the sake of simply moving.

3. **Were there any times when it was FORTUNATE that I didn't have to make a call?** In almost every contest there are situations (or potential ones) which could cause officials embarrassment if they were required to make a ruling. Fortunately, most lapses in concentration, improper positioning and failures to hustle go unnoticed by others. You should not, however, ignore those lapses. Sooner or later such shortcomings will catch up with you. Understanding why you didn't make a particular call is important. Were you blocked out? Were you looking at the ball? Were you watching the offensive player? Were you distracted by the coach? Were you moving getting into a position? Did you understand the primary responsibilities?

4. **Did I do everything I could TO ENSURE a just and fair outcome to the game?** In every sport there is a great deal of latitude available for officials in the sanctioning of play. As a result, it is unavoidable that this arbitrary power will strongly influence (if not determine) the outcome of the game. The best you can hope to do is to choose a course of enforcement that will most likely be just and fair to bring about a conclusion that reflects the relative merit of play by the participants. Understand that each level of games may be officiated slightly differently but the rules and the mechanics do not change.

5. **Did I make any calls that didn't REFLECT the way I experienced the event?** That occurs far more often than most officials like to admit. Making calls too quickly, viewing events through the eyes of others, making calls basis of what is assumed to have happened because of doubt about your own sense of experience, playing to the crowd and taking the line of least resistance are only some of the ways in which officials make calls that violate the dictum to call them as you see them. Take the time to see the play and make your ruling the right one. You don't want to be remembered as the "irritant" to the game by calling plays that have really no effect on the game or you feel you need to control every thing in the game. Remember you are there to officiate, not to dominate.

Cont'd...



6. **Did I fail to maintain proper CONTROL at any time?** An important part of any official's job is to control the behavior of players, coaches and fans so the game can proceed in an orderly fashion. Fights, arguments, fan interference and other unexpected disruptions often endanger the likelihood of orderliness and proper conclusion. Anyone can be surprised and confused by new experiences, but each such situation should be used as a learning experience for future incidents.

7. **When did I feel most VULNERABLE to outside influences?** All officials experience situations in which their confidence and independence waxes and wanes. That is a normal response to an activity that relies so heavily upon subjective judgment. It is important however, for you to know when you are most vulnerable so that necessary steps can be taken to keep those influences in a proper perspective. By identifying when you are most susceptible to those outside influences, you can bear down with a little discipline and follow your own course.

8. **Did I fail to seriously consider the nature of the CRITICISM directed at my work?** Too often officials simply dismiss the criticism of their work coming from coaches, players, the bench, and the stands as being biased, irrational or coming from an uninformed audience. Even though those explanations may be correct a great deal of the time, it can be helpful to know why certain criticisms are made by a certain audience at certain times. On the other hand, there may be some merit to the criticisms, which may be overlooked if you are too quick to defend your work or dismiss the criticism. Are you pointing fingers at other people for your mistakes or turning that finger pointing to your self?

9. **Were there any situations where I avoided or usurped responsibility for a ruling at the expense of a PARTNER?** It is a human tendency to avoid potentially threatening situations while seeking those that are likely to be rewarding. You should be careful; however, of any action that might reflect badly upon your partner. Whether you allowed your partner to take responsibility for a ruling you should have made or you stepped in and overruled your partner, you should be certain it is done in the interest of the game rather than for any personal motive. Accept responsibility rather than placing blame. Control only what you can control.

10. **Was there anything about my signals, gestures or style that evoked an UNEXPECTED or unwanted response?** An official is often unaware of how his/her work appears to others. As a result, his/her work may be seen as inappropriate, incompetent or the other extreme of arrogance. For example, although you may want to appear relaxed during the course of your work, you may be perceived as appearing disinterested. Good officials, on each occasion, should know something about the character of their audiences and adjust their performance to produce the best possible results. Such insight takes time, experience and attentiveness to the changing character of audiences. It is ok to have fun on the court but also understanding what you portray is outwardly reflected to all parties involved from your crew mates, to players, to coaches, evaluators, and audience members. You just never know who is watching you who might be able to assist you in reaching that next opportunity.

11. **Did I uphold, defend or RATIONALIZE an improper ruling?** Many officials live by the old adage that to change a decision is to provoke criticisms and undermine credibility. It should be kept in mind that the purpose for which an official is hired is to call them right. If you are unable to handle criticism or are too concerned with an untarnished image, you probably shouldn't get involved in such work.

Cont'd...



Evaluators and crew members are trying to help you succeed whether it be in a 2 or 3 person crew. When a mistake is made, you should accept responsibility rather than penalize the participants by insisting upon its correctness. In the long run, that type of inflexibility does more damage to your credibility than almost anything else. However, you should do every thing possible within your control to not allow those mistakes to continue. If you are consistently accepting responsibility for the same blown call over and over again, you will end up losing credibility. Making an effort to change things goes a long way in your growth and development.

12. Was there a particular aspect of my PERFORMANCE that could work on in the next game?

The perfect game has yet to be worked. If you ever answer “no” to this question, you are either deceiving yourself or not interested in perfecting your craft. I would hope we all are saying “yes” that is what you strive to do each time out no matter what level you are working. There are always areas in need of improvement. Officials who are satisfied with all past performances will not succeed and plateau very quickly. You should always work under the assumption that you are only as good as your next call and should make every effort to ensure it’s a good one.

1. Clinic reminder - for anyone who has not attended or did the October 15th clinic:

November 21st - 9:00am - noon (for those who attended the 15th)

9:00am - 3:00pm (for those who have not attended a clinic yet)

Lunch will be on your own: 12:00 -12:30pm

Location: Rosslyn Jr. High School

2. Exam - Tuesday the 24th

There will be locations to write the week before - TBA

Minimum of: 70% for Level 1

80% for Level 2 (*also to be eligible for provincials*)

86% for Level 3 (*also to be eligible for Nationals*)

There is a refresher exam on the website.

3. Level Meeting - I think you should discuss the Level meeting we are having November 4th and the intent behind it?

*Can you let me know what you plan to say so I know? Thank you.

