

President's Message

It's the last few weeks of the season and everything is amped up from here on in. The intensity of the games reaches new levels as we get to the part of the season that everyone has been working all year to achieve – players, coaches, officials and fans alike. There are more games and more demands placed on us as officials and I applaud our membership for their commitment up to this point, but that is the reason we are involved isn't it? To be an integral part of an intense athletic contest where our abilities and effort are so important to all involved. I love it! I love the moment where preparation, commitment, and opportunity all collide within the context of exciting basketball contests. I know we share that passion for the game of basketball and it's exciting that we

have the privilege of exercising that passion.

The evening of February 21st plays host to one of the most enduring EBOA traditions: Molson Night. Please make the effort to attend and as always, please feel free to bring anyone who is significant to you along. We will be announcing the provincial and national appointments that our board has received and look forward to sharing the evening with all of our members. With Provincial and National tournaments Molson night serves as our last official get together until our AGM in April. Since our general elections occur at our AGM, now is the time to decide if you may be interested in running for a position on our executive. If anyone has any

questions feel free to contact Richard Kwok, our acting Past President, who is responsible for building the slate for the election of any interested individuals.

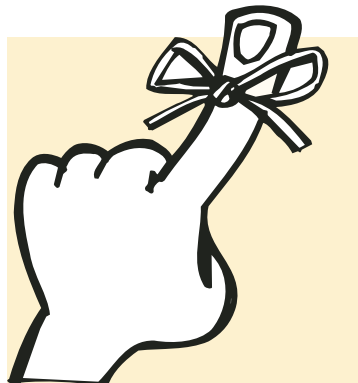
I wish everyone well and if I don't have the opportunity to see you in person... have a great finish to the season.

Perry Stothart

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Dates to Remember



February 21

Molson Night and
Provincial and National
assignments announced
Check out the Web site for
details on tournaments



From the Vice President *Investing in Yourself*

Do you ever wonder how officials in the NBA get to where they are? They get to where they are because they invest countless hours into the game both on and off the basketball court. The EBOA may not have produced any NBA officials yet, however we are very fortunate to have numerous officials in its organization who lead by

example (and some who have reffed NCAA basketball). Now, I know some of you have heard this speech told a hundred different times by a hundred different people, so I guess that will make me the one hundred and one person to jog your memory.

- There is some fantastic basketball within and surrounding the City of Edmonton, so how come I have not seen many of you watching from the stands?
- Stay in shape – lift weights, run, yoga, pilates – do whatever it takes to make you look like you can keep up with the players. Do you think Karen Lasuik looks that good and can keep up with the University Men’s basketball teams because she eats Twinkies all day?
- Come out to meetings – there is a lot of good educational information

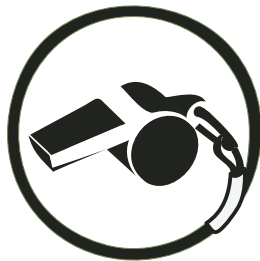
- that we discuss at our meetings. This is one of the worst years I have ever seen for meeting attendance. Shame on you!!!
- Give back to your association - help evaluate! I sometimes learn more evaluating than I do officiating. This does not mean you have to be a ‘Senior’ level official to evaluate as Bob Sexsmith is always looking for help with his community level officials.
 - Study for the provincial exam because if you don’t get 80%, you won’t be going to provincials.

Getting to go to a provincial tournament is one of the most memorable and rewarding experiences out there and I can guarantee going will make you a better official.

- And lastly, go to a basketball camp – need I say more!

So if you ever wonder, “why am I not reffing better high school games’ or ‘how come I am not on the ACAC list’, look at the list above. These few points are only the tip of the iceberg. Are you ‘Investing in Yourself’?

Can you do community games?



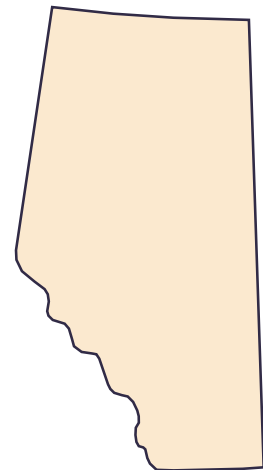
EBOA officials - IF YOU CAN WORK Feb. 25, March 11 or 19. Let me know, even if you call at 10pm on Friday night, I do not mind, as I may or may not have games for you!

I hope you will be able to help me out.

Ed Harasem
988-4851 voice mail
eharasem@hotmail.com

Community Provincials are in Edmonton and surrounding area this year.

If you can work on Friday March 17 and Saturday March 18, please email Ed Harasem eharasem@hotmail.com about when and where you would like to work.





JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

As the 2005/2006 season winds down it seems appropriate to provide our members with information on the activities and the performance of our Community League and Novice officials. We have received a fair number of complaints about our officials who have refereed in Community League games. In general, these complaints have been about the lack of calls on contact, particularly at the Mini and Bantam levels. In addition, we received inquiries about the interpretation of the NCAA Rule dealing with the ejection of a coach due to his/her receiving a combination of technical fouls and EYBA Rules of Play dealing with "double teaming" a player without the ball - illegal or "double teaming" a player with the ball - legal. These complaints have all been satisfactorily dealt with. With the late cancellation of school gyms and changes in referee assignments, it has been a more difficult season in which to carry out all the observations and evaluations at the Community League and Novice levels of officials. However, most of the officials have received an evaluation.

With the change in the rules and possibly officiating mechanics, it seems to be an appropriate time to make a change in the Junior Development Officer position. I have, therefore, decided not to let my name stand for re-election to this position at the Annual General Meeting.

I wish to thank all those who helped carry out the evaluations of both Community League and Novice officials, for without their help I could not have succeeded in meeting my responsibilities.

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the many members of the Executive with whom I have had the privilege of working over the past ten years.

I wish to offer my support to whomever the new Junior Development Officer may be and I wish him/her well in this time consuming and sometimes frustrating position.

For the "statistic buffs" the following is a recap of the membership of Community League and Novice officials.

Item	Community	
	League	Novice
Registration	121	31
Less:	Quit 5	1
	Medical 1	
Net	115	30
Officials Evaluated	97	25

IN THE KNOW

The end of the winter season of basketball is near, Play-offs, Provincials, and National Championships are just around the corner. Soon, the frozen, snow-less (knock on wood) ground will thaw, and Spring League will be upon us. Have you met your goals to date? If not, have you done everything within your power to reach them?

Now is the time to begin thinking about summer camps. Although the Canada West Camp will not be taking place here in Edmonton this summer, there are many, many camps in and around the area. For those who are interested, visit www.stripezone.com to see a listing of camps that are now out and filling up quickly.

Most EBOA members have been evaluated to date, thanks to my terrific evaluation committee. I've even been able to get out and see a number of people myself with the DVD cam. There are still a few out there who have not been seen. Please take it upon yourself to let this be known to me via e-mail. Even though the High School season is wrapping up, there is still Spring League.

Congratulations to all who have been chosen to attend High School Provincials, CCAA Nationals, and CIS Nationals. You've worked hard this year and are reaping the rewards of it. Remember to go into those assignments with a positive outlook, work hard in each and every game you are given, and control what you can control. After that, the decisions are out of your hands.

Have a great remainder of the season everyone, and keep working hard! I look forward to seeing you all at Molson Night!

Karen Lasuik
EDO