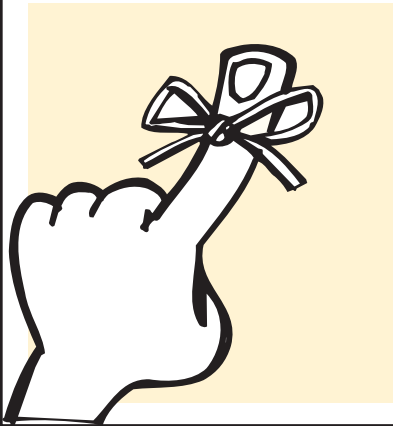


Dates to Remember



January	24	General Meeting
February	7	Executive Meeting
	21	Molson Night and Provincial and National assignments announced

Check out the Web site for details
on tournaments

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Community Corner

Community Provincials are in
Edmonton and surrounding area
this year.

The dates are Friday March 17 and
Saturday March 18. If you can work
on those dates, please email me
about when and where you would
like to work.

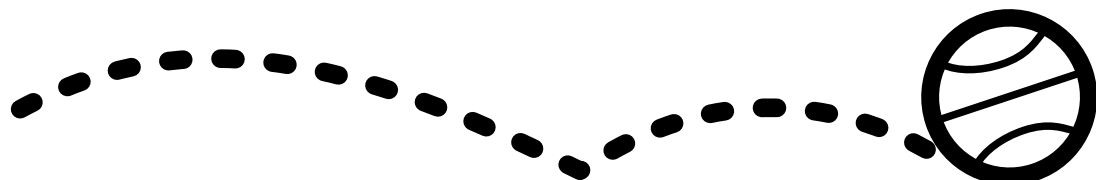
Ed Harasem
eharasem@hotmail.com

Junior High

JR High is in full swing and please
check The Arbiter and respond
ASAP on assignments to make it
easier for everyone.

We appreciated everybody's help on
the January 12, 13 and 14 - we had
a lot of tournaments to cover. The
next critical weekend is the 4th of
February - not that every weekend
isn't critical from here on in!

Tom





Vice President's Message

Here we go - attacking the home stretch, and I don't know about you, but for me it seems like the weeks are just flying by. After the exam break it's full steam ahead until March. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to focus on the level of professionalism we portray. As the season progresses, the games grow in importance, and with many tournaments yet to come, there are just no excuses for a lack of effort. There will always be difficult situations that arise within the context of basketball officiating. However, it seems like so many of the incidents could have been avoided with a few simple decisions. It will only help our efforts as officials if we truly endeavor to give everyone the sense that we care about the game and the players. Participants are more likely

to remember how you made them feel versus what you said, and I know from personal experience that officials are given a lot more leeway if we apply a healthy level of hustle to each contest.

Please take careful note: we should all understand the rule with respect to headwear/bandanas, etc. during a game; however, special consideration is to be given to headwear that is of a religious nature. It is not appropriate to restrict participation of an individual based on this circumstance.

Again it is the time of year when Provincial assignments will be ratified within the next few weeks and the majority of evaluations have been completed. If provincial/national

assignments are goals of yours – there are no days off. Don't ever be satisfied and you will improve your game.

I will bring some EBOA pullovers to the next meeting and if there are any of you who are interested you can walk home with one that evening. I will also be taking orders for additional EBOA wear at the conclusion of the meeting.

There is not a lot of basketball going on currently with the exam break, so take this opportunity to attend the general meeting on the 24th!

Good luck!

Perry Stothart

From the Member at Large

Wow, has it been busy! With the weather staying as nice as it has my work place has been humming and so has basketball. Tom has had to put old guys like Freddy and me into 4 games in one day; however, being the troopers we are we got them done.

The following are some direct quotations we have received from some of our clients, judge for yourself if this is how you want yourself and your association to be perceived:

“In the lead official position at the East end of the gym, his stance was as follows: one hand on the stage, one hand on hip, leaning on back hand with one foot crossed over the other. No baseline movement, no posture that suggested, “I am actively watching the floor”. This didn't occur just once after a particular fast

exchange, but regularly throughout the game.”

“Five consecutive foul calls on our team by this official out of the lead position without an exchange of position between officials.”

“The game seemed to be about the officials not the players.”

“I feel that the officials are getting paid to work the games and some effort and pride should be taken, just like the effort put in at the REBS tournament on the weekend. This is a very common occurrence at the 9:00 and 9:30 games. The officials do not want to be there and do everything to speed up the game and get home.”

“Officiating not consistent. I don't think it's fair that one referee would

make a call on one end but the other will not make the same call in the other end. One referee seems to be more dominant and the other referee hardly called anything.”

From the quotes I am sure you can see they notice when we do not act in a professional manner; they notice when we do not use proper mechanics; they notice when we do not make our best effort and they notice when both officials are not on the “same page”.

Remember, every time you put the shirt, pants and shoes on and step on the floor, they notice! Be a professional. That means you work hard at all times, you use the correct mechanics and you act in a dignified manner.

Bob Pollard



IN THE KNOW

What does it take to get to that next level? To get to the top level? Is it something an official is born with or something learned? These are questions I would hope all officials have asked themselves at one time or another. Let me share a few attributes from Referee Magazine that describes “what lead officials do better than the rest.”

Some officials walk out onto the court and you just know they’ve got the game in hand. There’s something different about them. Every word and action from them tells you they are in charge. So what do they do that’s so different?

There is no particular personality trait that makes an official a lead. Some command respect with an outgoing demeanor and a self-assuredness that might border on cockiness. Others accomplish the same thing with a quiet demeanor and a “we’re all in this together” approach. Lead officials don’t have to prove they are in charge. They are in charge.

Officials who aspire to be a lead can’t get there – absolutely cannot get there – without a complete working knowledge of the rules and mechanics of the game. This also means having a thorough understanding of how rules and enforcement of mechanics play into the game, how they impact the ebb and flow, and why they were written in the first place.

Lead officials are sensitive to the emotional tone of a contest and adjust their management style accordingly. It’s not hard to whistle

a technical – it takes guts in certain situations, but it’s not hard. On the other hand, it takes considerably more skill to talk a player through a situation than to take punitive action.

Lead officials empower their crew-mates and partners, making them feel important and letting them know there is an innate trust there. You have to have confidence and trust in your partners, and not be afraid of having some of your calls challenged by any other official.

Preparation and desire is another key. You must be ready to step up at any time in any game. If you’re not prepared, you may spend a lot of time asking yourself, “Why I am not considered a Leader?” It’s that craving for the toughest role in the toughest games – it’s a matter of how much do you want to step up and really grab hold of a leadership position.

Being a lead isn’t only about getting your own calls right; it means serving the game by helping your associates be the best they can be. It’s about confidence, humility and personal responsibility.

Do you have what it takes to be a Lead?

Karen Lasuik

VP’s Message

Thank you to everyone who made it out to the Christmas Party at Pub 1905 and also to Kathy and Sue for helping at the door. It was great to see everyone and meet some new faces. I would also like to say a special thank you to everyone who attended as we raised \$73 from the EBOA pullover raffle. Angie Celino was the lucky winner!!!! The \$73 from the raffle along with a donation from the EBOA, will be made to Kindness in Action. This organization includes a group of dental professionals who travel to third world countries to provide dental care. Barry Dunkley (member of the EBOA) and his wife are part of this organization.

Mark on your Calendar



Molson’s Night has been booked for Tuesday, February 21, 2006. Further announcements will be made at the upcoming EBOA meetings.

Melanie Gray