

President's Message

The season is now underway with EBA, College and Community in full swing. Obviously we have some of the same old challenges with the fact we're to officiate two sets of rules again this year (FIBA at ACAC), but we're close... come next season it will be better! Attendance at our first meeting was again very good, and it is important to maintain that momentum through the year. Our upcoming meeting will outline the budget for the season as well as review last season. We also have a detailed education component focusing on rules and other current issues. Our attendance policy introduced last year continues, and it is my sincere hope and expectations that our fines are way down this upcoming season. Make up clinics for all levels (Community through Sr. B) are just around the corner at

Rosslyn October 27/28. Please take the opportunity to share this opportunity with as many acquaintances as you can... we can always use more good people!

I again took the time to meet with the Community League coaches and share what has become an annual message, and I feel it went very well. We talked about the importance of sportsmanship and the challenges we all face as parents, coaches, and officials to provide our children with the chance to participate in our area.

The recruitment and retention of officials, or lack thereof, is an obstacle to the continued growth of the game, and make no mistake – the game is continuing to grow.

As way of an update, the GO centre continues to progress with an official meeting early in November with the Community Services City of

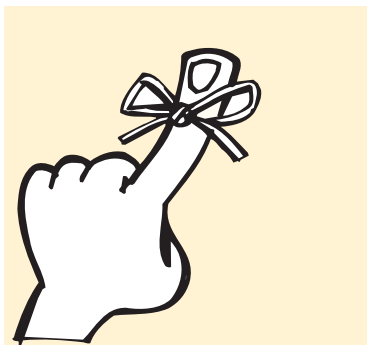
Edmonton to obtain final approval on the land/city funding for the centre. Take the opportunity to contact your city councillor, MLA, or MP, as any contacts with these representatives will help. I think we all understand that the power of one phone call in the minds of elected officials represents the opinions of many, many more.

I realize that this time of year requires some significant commitment on our part to organize ourselves and get back to officiating games. Set aside the time necessary to study the rules, focus on your fitness and preparation – avoiding injury early in the season is imperative to a productive year.

I look forward to the chance to work some games with you this season, take care!

Perry Stothart

Dates to Remember



October	27 & 28	Makeup Clinic Rosslyn Jr. High
December	10	Christmas Social Cosmos Greek Taverna 10810 - 124 Street.



Member at Large

To continue from my submission in the September newsletter, one of the areas I am responsible for as Member-at-Large is to oversee complaints/issues between our members, our members and the Association, as well as our members and the leagues that we service. In future editions of our newsletter, I plan to advise the members of the work I am conducting to ensure they understand the types of issues our Association faces - a goal is to help people learn from the experiences of their peers.

As a general rule, any incidents involving players/coaches being ejected from a game, I would ask that you note the incident on the back of the scoresheet in the appropriate area, and notify me by e-mail within 24 hours of the incident. I would ask that each referee

assigned to the game include the following information: date, time, teams, partner, daytime phone number, e-mail, action taken with situation, as well as a detailed, honest description of the incident. From there I will do my best to advise the league, and any future action taken will be communicated to the officials working the game.

Regarding letters of complaint from members about other members, or with members and our customers, I will ask for the same information as noted above. However, one main difference will be that I will ask for the information with a seven day deadline. Once I have received the reports from the officials, I will then take the necessary actions, and again, will advise the officials as to the outcome. In the

event I do not receive the requested correspondence, further action will be taken that will involve the President of the Association, as well as the Assignor.

In the event the Grievance Committee is required to participate in the process, I will follow the steps as outlined in the EBOA Bylaw.

In the meantime, if anyone has any questions regarding this process, please feel free to call me.

Please remember:

- BE committed;
- BE professional; and
- BE a great partner.

Stephane Labonne

Junior Development

After a very successful clinic Sept 29th and 30th, the community league started with a bang on Oct 14th. Only a few returning officials were evaluated as all the first year officials are always given a couple of games to do before they are looked at. Oct 21st will be more of the same as all officials who didn't work on the 14th will work the 21st. Oct 28th we'll have more evaluations to get as many of our community league officials looked at as possible. We will try to look at you at games other than Minis, depending on the schedule, when and where you are available to officiate, but remember we all have to start somewhere

Some observations from games viewed:

- a. not knowing community league specific rules, ie the 15 point ahead rule, officials did not call obvious back

court fouls after warnings given or not even giving warnings.

- b. players being pushed from behind by opponents to get the ball, this is a push
- c. obvious palming not being called
- d. letting obvious travelling or palming go and then call a foul on the defence,
- e. double whistles - far too many, officials must know their primary areas of responsibility
- f. the team benches are almost on top of the scorers bench, they should be at least 15 - 20 feet from the scorers bench in the smaller gyms and the top of the 3 point line on a regulation size gym
- g. officials are reluctant to use their voice, be a little louder, the players, coaches, and your partner need to know what is going on and what's going to happen next

h. jerseys worn by officials are not tucked in

i. the time not being cut in for the last 5 minutes of each half and the last minute of the 2nd half

Despite these observations, most reports indicated a good effort.

I know it is early in the season, but we all have to get focused and prepare for our assignments. Read the handouts given out at the clinic - Do it Right, the Mechanics Review and Get it Right. These handouts tell you where to stand for which play, what to do when you or your partner makes a call either a foul, or violation, etc. and the rules of the game. Take the time to look at them a day or two before your games, they will help make your job easier and make you a better official.

See you on the court

Fred Goldring



IN THE KNOW

With the new season now upon us, I hope you've all cracked last year's rule book and any other clinic materials you possess as personal preparation tools. Unfortunately we've had a delay with our rule books once again, however, that does not excuse us from either using last year's book (accompanied by this year's changes) or going onto the internet to download a copy of this year's rules.

In addition, by now most of you have attended a clinic or two. That being said, it's important that we're all taking that information and translating it onto the court in the same manner; be it rules, mechanics, signals.

For those of you who have not yet taken a moment to fill out the "Goal Sheet" that Rich sent to you, I implore you to please do so. This is valuable information for me and my evaluation team as we try to help you reach your goals this season.

A reminder that our NCAA Exam is on November 28th. If you cannot make that date, you can arrange to write it the week prior at one of the following people's homes: Karen Lasuik (West End) Perry Stothart (South Side) Gil Desmarais (South Side) Fred Goldring (North Side). Passing score is 66% to be eligible to officiate, 80% to be eligible for High School Provincial Championships, and 86% for CCAA or CIS National Championships.

Let's all have a great start to the season!

Karen Lasuik

From the Assignor

We're well under way for the 2006-2007 season. I'd like to remind everyone again to keep your availability updated in Arbiter as much as possible.

Also, a reminder to everyone that your attendance at general meetings is expected and fines are levied for non-attendance. Make yourself aware of the policy and the meeting dates and try to stay within the guidelines.

Another reminder that you must attend a clinic for your level every year. Don't miss yours. Dates are posted on the website.

Finally, UofA intramurals start soon. If you're interested in those games, let me know. We have a group of university students who have joined the association and we'll use them extensively, but we need experienced officials to mentor and work with them at the outset.

See you on the hardwood.

Gil

Secretary

My season has started off particularly well; Registration was a resounding success – thank you to Kent and Ed for partnering with me to coordinate all the little details. The Orientation package we compiled for new officials got rave reviews and all in all, I believe we are doing a better job of integrating new members.

One thing that I would ask of all of you – if you change your address or contact information, please email me with the new information at richkwok68@hotmail.com. I need to know because I am the person responsible for the roster and for letting Kent know where to mail the cheques!

Richard

Mark Your Calendar

Souvlaki, Ouzo, and Belly Dancers this is going to be fantastic!!!!

Christmas Social has been set for Sunday, December 10, 2006 at Cosmos Greek Taverna located at 10810 - 124 Street. The charge will be \$15.00 per EBOA member or \$25.00 per couple.

PLEASE LET MELANIE GRAY KNOW IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING, otherwise you will be charged. More information will be relayed in the November newsletter.

NOTE – the EBOA will not be responsible for any broken dishes during the evenings festivities.