

What's inside

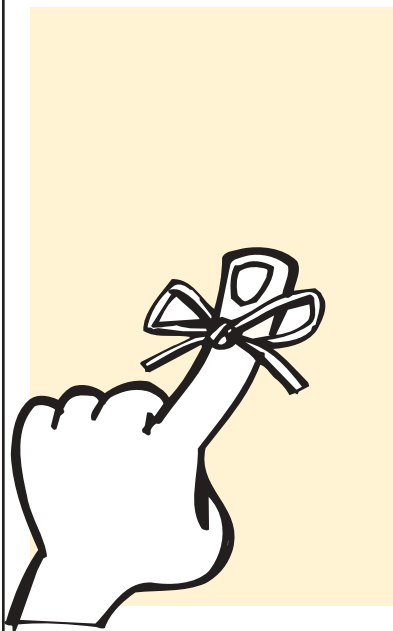
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The Referees' Mission:
"Make the game Fair,
Make the game Safe."

Dave Libbey
2005 ABOA Clinic

Please Note
all meetings are now at
LOUIS ST. LAURENT
11230 43 Ave

Dates to Remember



September	20	General Meeting @ Louis St. Laurent
	23 & 24	Community, Novice and Sophomore Clinic Rosslyn
	27	Senior Clinic - LSL
	29 - Oct 1	ACAC Tournament
October	1	Community League Begins
	18	Jr-Int Clinic - LSL
December	11	Christmas Social

Check out the Web site for details
on tournaments



President's Message

Here we are again at the beginning of another season of basketball following an unprecedented summer here in Alberta. The World Masters Games, Wheelchair Nationals, College Men's Nationals (Edmonton) and College Women's Nationals, Midget Men and Women's Nationals (Calgary) were all held in our province these past few months. Throw in the Canada West camp, and we truly have been given access to excellent officiating opportunities. On a personal note, I was able to enjoy my first FIBA assignment in San Diego this past June, and I truly had a great time! I look forward to the next chance I'll have to travel to work an international tournament.

By way of announcement, the executive has appointed Richard Kwok to serve as Past-President for the 2005-2006 season. As this is my second term as President, we had a vacancy on the executive and have welcomed Richard with open arms. I know I speak for all the executive when I say that we are looking forward to working with him in an official capacity.

It seems that fuel prices are dominating the news these days, and in relation to that discussion, both game and travel fees are increasing this year. We will present the new information at our first meeting.

This season has started earlier than any I can remember, with the ABOA clinic on Sept 9/10 in Calgary and our first general meeting on the 20th - it's time to get rolling! The ACAC is holding their official pre-season tournament in Edmonton on the last weekend in September, with the Pandas, Kings College, and

Lloydminster all hosting tournaments the following weekend in October. Again, there will be many opportunities to see some excellent preseason ball games over the next three weeks. With the CIS season starting early this year, the Golden Bears have moved their exhibition tournament to the Christmas break in late December.

The ABOA clinic was well attended and I appreciated the chance to see Dave Libbey again. I've attended his camp in the past in San Diego, and he continues to exude genuine passion for officiating and teaching the game of basketball. For all of those who were unable to attend, take the time to ask Karen Lasuik about "playing tennis."

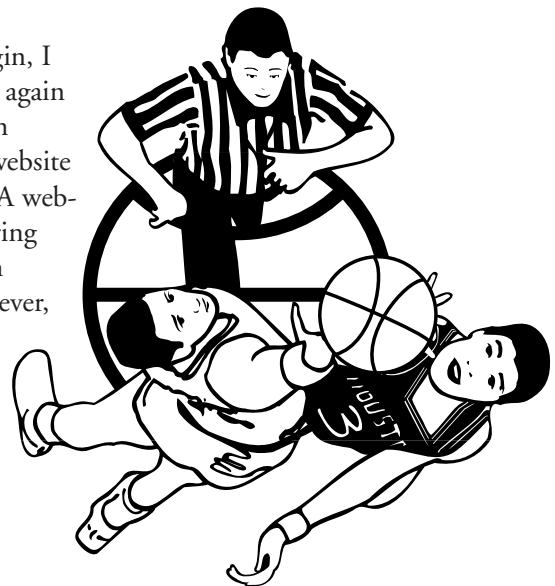
The GO Centre (basketball, volleyball and gymnastics) now has a sign on display at its future home on the Northwest corner of 91st and 28 Ave. The GO Centre group is currently in the early stages of fundraising and planning its construction and operation. Information will be forthcoming about our opportunity to participate individually and as an association in the fundraising efforts.

With the season about to begin, I think it would be prudent to again address the issue of discussion boards, both on our EBOA website and others. Firstly, the EBOA website is a fantastic tool for sharing large amounts of information quickly and efficiently. However, the discussion board is a privilege to be used for sharing rules info, acknowledging good efforts of officials and discussing basketball principles. Negative and/or

unprofessional comments or language is not acceptable use of our website. Both the Canada Basketball and EYBA websites (to name two) have direct links to our site. We must always be considerate of the image we put forward. From time to time, I am given reports of websites that seem to promote 'ref bashing.' The simple answer is not to participate in these discussions. Lending an opinion in an attempted defense of officials in such a forum only seems to exacerbate the situation and the contention is not at all positive. We serve to allow the lowest common denominator to define our association when we choose to engage in this behavior. It is imperative that we stay on the high road at all times.

I'm excited to see everyone at our first meeting, and PLEASE bring a friend!

Perry Stothart





From the Assignor

This is such a familiar tune, I'm sure you all know it by heart. Come on, sing it with me now.... _ "Da da dada da da...Please keep your availability updated on the Arbiter..." _

Adult leagues and Community Leagues and ACAC start in September/October. Until high school begins, those are the only games available, and there are 180 of us looking for games. So don't expect to be working 2 or 3 night per week. But if it looks like I've forgotten about you, make sure you let me know. A call or an e-mail just to ask will not upset me, I assure you. Also, if you have any special requests, make sure I know about them – particular games and/or partners, more of this, less of that, good to go here, don't want to go there, etc. Don't expect me to know these things unless you tell me.

To register as a RETURNING member of EBOA, all you have to do is make sure your information is correct on Arbiter, your availability is up to date and that you're marked READY.

To register as a NEW official in EBOA, you need to contact me, giving me your e-mail address and phone number. Arbiter will do the rest. (hoops1@telus.net 721 3299)

Remember, attendance at the clinic for your level is mandatory. In the beginning, I will assume you'll attend and give you assignments. After the clinic, if you haven't attended, you'll be cut off.

I look forward to seeing all of you again.

Gil

Junior Development Officer Report

Another basketball season has begun. What have you done to prepare yourself for the upcoming season?

Have you been running or jogging to get in shape physically? Have you taken out your rulebook and studied it to prepare yourself mentally? You should be doing both of these things in order to prepare yourself to referee the basketball games to which you will be assigned.

You should be in shape to referee and not referee to get in shape. Looking "fit" contributes to the confidence coaches, players and spectators will have in your ability to do a good job.

All officials are required to attend a clinic in order to referee. For Community League, Novice and Sophomore officials the first clinic is on September 23 & 24. A make-up clinic is scheduled for October 21 & 22 for those who are unable to attend the clinic in September.

Details of the clinic may be found on the EBOA web site at "www.theeboa.com".

See you at the clinic!!

Bob Sexsmith
Junior Development Officer

From the VP

First off, I would like to introduce myself as the new 'Social Butterfly' for the EBOA. I would like to continue on with Jake Steinbrenner's one year tradition and use Pub 1905 as the EBOA "official gathering". Pub 1905 has daily specials and will give EBOA members 20% off the total bill if you let the wait staff know you are with the EBOA. Pub 1905 is located on Saskatchewan Drive and 101 Street, formerly The Ritchie Mill.

Please support our sponsor, Pub 1905, after meetings, clinics or games. It is a great place to discuss that tough call you made in a game or to get feedback from fellow officials. I would like to encourage everyone to continue to be responsible and maintain a positive relationship.

I look forward to meeting everyone at our first EBOA meeting and getting a chance to socialize with all of you this year.

Melanie Gray
Vice President

Community Corner

The Season is upon us. Clinic is on Sept 23 and 24 at Rosslyn School. The season starts on Saturday, Oct 1; there are no games on Oct 8th Thanksgiving. Games continue Oct 15, 22, 29, Nov 5. No games on Nov 11, games Nov 20.

EBOA officials, if you want games from community league and can help out by working with community officials, please email me at eharasem@hotmail.com (subject 'Community League') or 988-4851

Ed Harasem
Community Assignor





IN THE KNOW

After an eventful summer of traveling to Africa to work at the Young Women's World Championship tournament, then back to Edmonton to work and play in the World Masters, a few things have become clear:

- International basketball is the roughest, dirtiest, and most difficult game to officiate on this earth.
- My tennis game, although stagnant for the past 15 years, is suddenly alive and well again....although my once healthy ego is not. (Full story at 11:00, or next time you see me, ask!)

And now here we are, with another season right around the corner, when in reality, it never really did end. If you have not already visited our web site, the list of meetings, clinics by level, and any other important dates you need to know has been posted. Make yourself available for these dates! Likewise, if you have not already cracked open last year's rulebook to refresh your rules knowledge, it might be an idea to dust that 'ole baby off and get at it! The new 2005-06 books have been ordered and are now on their way!

Jr High Assignor

How u doin?

Hi and welcome back, everyone. Hope, everybody had a good and restful summer. Any official (new or more experienced) that has not done junior high games and is interested, please email me: tvasquez@telusplanet.net.

Thanks,
Tom

OFFICIATING PREPARATION

(Lasuik's checklist)

Physical

Are you physically prepared for the season - do you look it?

It's one of those things in your control and the first thing Coaches see before you ever blow your whistle. Being physically prepared to officiate needs to be an ongoing process - not on the job training. Do what you need to do to stay healthy during the season.

Mental

Mental toughness is learned, not born.

Do what you need to do to be focused and sharp for your games.

Read your rulebook frequently.

Prepare a chart or cheat-sheet of rules you have difficulty remembering, or rule differences if you work different leagues and review them prior to every game.

If you have the opportunity, watch yourself on tape. Look at your positioning, where you're looking when the ball is not in your primary, how you move on the court, your signals, and if you had the correct angle to make calls.

Take evaluators and mentors comments and implement them into your next game.

Watch others who are at the level you aspire to, and learn from them. Become a mentor. You won't believe how much you learn about your own game by watching and helping others.

Set a short-term goal for every game. Set a long-term goal for the season and future.

If your goal is to be the best official you can be, go to camps whenever you can.

Emotional

When you find you're not enjoying going out to officiate, whether it be the Coaches are on you, players are being disrespectful, games are too late at night, take a step back and ask yourself why you officiate.

It's a choice. You have chosen to officiate the most difficult sport out there. Remind yourself to be the best you can be for yourself. Don't get caught up in worrying about things that are not in your control - but control what you can (fitness, being on time to games, working hard every game)

No matter what level you work at, enjoy the ride, because eventually it stops, and you have to get off. No one will remember how many Sr. High tournament finals, High School Provincials, or Nationals you worked, but they will remember your character. Be an official that people want to work with.

Karen Lasuik
Education Development Officer

