



The Referee's Crease

A Newsletter for ALLIANCE Hockey Officials

August 2008

TO RECERTIFY OR NOT?

It is that time of year again - clinic dates are quickly approaching. Although for many of you no question arises, others need to decide if they intend to ref again this coming season.

For those who skated last year and intend to do so in 2008-09, the process is easy - register for, pay for and attend a recertification clinic and pass the test.

For those who either did not skate last year or who are contemplating taking some time off, different issues arise. In either case, the question is "What happens to my HCOP level if I am uncertified for a year or more?"

Hockey Canada and the OHF allow their members some discretion in the administration of the HCOP program at a local level. In other words, the ALLIANCE may set its own policies within the overall HCOP framework.

ALLIANCE policy has two essential aspects; (i) for those who have been uncertified for 5 seasons or less, and (ii) for those who have been uncertified for more than 5 seasons.

Being uncertified for 5 years or less does not impact your HCOP level. After your year(s) off, you go to a certification clinic and write the exam at your prior level.

If you have been uncertified for more than 5 years, your situation will be reviewed by the ALLIANCE TD-Referees in consultation with the Senior Supervisors. You may well come back at your prior level, subject to satisfactory supervision(s).

INSURANCE ISSUES

The Hockey Canada insurance policy runs from September 1st through August 31st of the following year.

This means that officials who were certified for 2007 - 08 have insurance coverage until the end of August 2008. To continue that coverage without interruption, those officials must have REGISTERED FOR AND PAID FOR a recertification clinic by the end of August. Passing the exam at the clinic will give you coverage until the end of August 2009. Failing the exam suspends your coverage until you pass your re-write, at which time you are re-instated with coverage through August 2009.

Officials who were not certified for 2007 - 08 do not have a prior season's certification to support insurance coverage. They do not have any coverage until they pass their exam at the clinic.

No official without insurance is entitled to be a referee or a linesman in any ALLIANCE hockey game.

Returning certified officials: Get your clinic registration organized and paid for before the end of August and inform your Assignor. September games need to be filled with insured officials.

Review Board: Lorne Campbell, Rick Morpew, Marshall Copp, Don Vale, Sean Reid, David Beech and Geoff Gamble

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