

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE THE WHISTLE

It is always a mystery why the off-season seems to be way too short, much like the summer vacation that also seems to vanish way too fast. Nevertheless, you can't complain, you have to plot on and keep working at all the fun things life has arranged.

I do hope that all of you are still reveling in the Raptors' first of hopefully many championships. It was exciting to watch and cheer on the dinos and see the basketball community of the province celebrate such a remarkable feat. One of the spin-offs of all that success is an inevitable increase in the registrations for players this coming season. It likely will see thousands of new players in competitions this year and as a result many more games needing our professional contribution to them. Hopefully local boards have been actively recruiting to train more OABO officials for the aftermath of Raptormania.

OABO Seminar and AGM Weekend: Justin Walsh and his Bay of Quinte team are busy building a wonderful weekend of socializing, education, celebration and business for all OABO members. The registration

site has been active on www.oabo.ca for a few weeks now and the numbers are growing daily. Please consider joining into the seminar weekend, whether it be for the golf event, the education and training sessions or the special evening of presentations during the Wall of Fame dinner. Don has told me there are nearly 250 members receiving various service awards of which we will be recognizing those who have contributed 25 and up. We have 8 members celebrating 50 years, 2 members celebrating 55 years and 2 members celebrating 65 years of service. We will also be presenting a few of the prestigious recognition awards. As always the conversation and reconnecting in the hospitality room will be time well spent.

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OBA Updates: Many important things have transpired within the OBA. One of the most important things is the passing into law "Rowan's Law." The seriousness of concussion awareness, identification and remediation is now part of a legal process. We are working with OBA to schedule training for each and every official in OABO as our responsibility and role in enhancing the safety and health of young athletes. Lots of information will be shared at the seminar weekend and by local boards to all of our officials. This is a necessary component of our yearly preparation and training now, so let's embrace it and create the best possible environment for players.

Changes are on the way to simplify the "Young Player Development Rules" (for example, man to man defense is going to be optional at all age levels) and will be shared by Mike at this year's rule update session. Further steps are going to be shared with the roll-out of the CBOC NOCP program and IOT training. Tim has been active all summer getting the first bout of training in the hands of boards and we hope to continue with that process early in the season. OBA has launched their "Club Excellence" program for this year and will be working to launch the "Respect in Sport" training for coaches, parents and players. Both of these will greatly help to change the conversation about the treatment of our officials. More information will be circulated in short order around AGM preparation and other initiatives.

As we head into August and start to plan for the season, be sure to cherish the down time and get those last days of rest. I know I have been enjoying the rounds of golf, special projects and time with family and friends. Take advantage of this time for yourself and your friends and families. It all begins again way too soon.

The OBA / OCAA / OABO officiating forum has been a work in progress, however trying to pick a date and coordinating it around all the stakeholder schedules has been a nightmare. Mind you, it is easy to forgive the Raptors for messing around with our May plans by needing their practice facility for other more pressing activities. I am pleased to announce that we have scheduled a date and through the hard work of Paul Johnson, we have secured a venue in Hamilton for the afternoon of Wednesday August 14, 3-7 pm. This will allow the OCAA to participate and also coincide with the OBA night at the CEBL Hamilton Honey-badgers final game. We are working to provide a teleconference structure to be as inclusive to all boards, so they can have a participant involved. As further detail arise, we will be sure to provide them to local boards as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience and we look forward to your participation.

Rick

Northern Report—Brian Seccareccia

Not too much happening on the basketball scene at the moment in the North as everyone is enjoying their favourite summer activities.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our AGM in September.

Brian

Vice President's Report - John Grilli

Our OBA season is complete, and I would like to thank all boards and their officials for generally handling Provincial playoffs successfully. Although there were some incidents at provincials that were both disturbing and unfortunate it is always great to hear when things do go right.

A number of disturbing incidents came across our "Fair Play Committee" which, unfortunately, seems to be on the upswing. These incidents are involving both coaches and fans coming onto the court with more frequency to engage in inappropriate behavior, oftentimes physical. I must reiterate that we, as officials, need to continue to be diligent and "take care of business" as it relates to unruly behavior by both fans and coaches. Unruly behavior must be dealt with by engaging site convenors at tournaments to address or remove fans when their behavior is not consistent with OBA Fair Play Policy.

As well, it is our responsibility as officials to address inappropriate behavior by coaches or players, especially early in the game so that it doesn't escalate out of control. We can not think that bad behavior will go away by itself with our officials ignoring it and not addressing it properly.

We need to continue to assist scoring/timing table personnel during games as there should be zero tolerance from us as officials when coaches begin to berate these, often young, volunteers.

We also can not allow players, coaches, and fans to use inappropriate and profane language, especially when it is racial or sexual in nature. Unfortunately, there have been more and more occurrences of this type of language and we, as officials, need to be sensitive to it and address it when we hear it.

Exploring open source software

The popularity of basketball in Ontario has never been as great as it is but with that popularity come issues that we need to help address. Let's keep working hard to help in this regard.

The "Fair Play Committee", along with your OABO executive are working on various proposals to address the aforementioned issues by putting together recommendations and initiatives to deal with the increase in incidents.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, let's keep in shape and let's look forward to another exciting refereeing season which should be upon us sooner than we think. Be Safe!

Sincerely, John

OBA's Policies & Procedures, including the Codes of Conduct and Fair Play Policies are found in the following link: https://basketball.on.ca/about-us/policies-and-procedures/

East Region Report—Brady Taylor

Nothing really to report that is new at this time.

Also looking forward to seeing everyone at our AGM in September.

Brady

Tom Lopes - Hamilton Life Member

Paul Johnson , President of the Hamilton Board of Approved Basketball Officials, presented Tom Lopes IAABO Executive Director , with Honorary Life Membership to the Hamilton board on May 16 2019. Assisting Paul is IAABO Life Member and Tom's long time friend Ron Foxcroft .



Former longtime IAABO Coordinator of Interpreters Peter Webb is undergoing recovery in a Portland hospital after suffering a brain aneurysm in early July.

Family sources confirmed that Peter, 82, had returned home after attending the funeral of longtime former Eastern Maine basketball tournament director Bill Fletcher and went out for a ride with his wife Marie on their pontoon boat, After returning from the boat ride Peter complained of a bad headache and when the situation didn't improve, his wife called 911. He was transported to St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor, Maine where he was placed on life support and further transported to Maine Medical Center in Portland.



"I guess they got him to Portland in the nick of time," Mike Webb said. "The doctors there couldn't believe that he even made it." After showing signs of progress, being able to stand with some help, and uttering some words the family has reported that he has suffered a recent setback.

Mike Webb said his family, including brothers Peter Jr., Kyle and sister Elizabeth, have appreciated all the support they have received in the aftermath of their father's illness.

'There's been telephone calls from all over the country," he said. "We've gotten a lot of support and we really appreciate it. Everything being considered, the next few days are critical. We just hope he can get through this and have some quality of life if it goes well."

On behalf of all Canadian officials, we send thoughts and prayers for a full recovery.

2019 PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Motion 1 Moved by Don Thorne Second John Grilli

Current: 8.3.1 Any member of the current OABO Executive who is a member in good standing and wishes to run for re-election must submit the following information: Name of the Candidate, Candidate's Local Board, Position being Nominated For, Consent to be Nominated, Name of the Nominator, Nominator's Local Board; to the OABO Secretary by August 1st of the year of the AGM. The OABO Secretary will forward these names to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards by August 15th of the year of the AGM by e-mail.

Proposed: 8.3.1 Any member of the current OABO Executive who is a member in good standing and wishes to run for re-election must submit the following information: Name of the Candidate, Candidate's Local Board, Position being Nominated For, Consent to be Nominated, Name of the Nominator, Nominator's Local Board; to the OABO Secretary no later than 60 days prior to the date of the AGM. The OABO Secretary will forward these names to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards by 30 days prior to the date of the AGM by e-mail.

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Current: 8.3.2 Any member of the OABO in good standing, other than a present OABO Executive member, who wishes to nominate an OABO member in good standing for election to a position on the OABO Executive at the AGM as per Article 8.2 must submit the following information: Name of the Candidate, Candidate's Local Board, Position being Nominated For, Consent to be Nominated, Name of the Nominator, Nominator's Local Board; to the OABO Secretary, by August 31st of the year of that AGM. The OABO Secretary will forward the names of all candidates to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards by September 5th of the year of that AGM by e-mail.

Proposed: 8.3.2 Any member of the OABO in good standing, other than a present OABO Executive member, who wishes to nominate an OABO member in good standing for election to a position on the OABO Executive at the AGM as per Article 8.2 must submit the following information: Name of the Candidate, Candidate's Local Board, Position being Nominated For, Consent to be Nominated, Name of the Nominator, Nominator's Local Board; to the OABO Secretary, no later than 30 days prior to the date of the AGM. The OABO Secretary will forward the names of all candidates to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards no later than 14 days prior to the date of the AGM by e-mail.

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Current: 8.3.3 If there is only one or no nominations declared by August 31st in the year of the AGM for any OABO Executive position available for election at that year's AGM under Article 8.2.3, an election shall be held with nominations from the floor.

Proposed: 8.3.3 If there is only one or no nominations declared <u>within 29 days of the AGM for any OABO Executive position available for election at that year's AGM under Article 8.2.3, an election shall be held with nominations from the floor.</u>

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Current: 13.5.a - All proposed Constitutional amendments must be submitted to the OABO Secretary noting the Mover, his Local Board, the Seconder, his Local Board, and a rationale for the amendment. The OABO Secretary must receive all amendments, no later than 2359:59 EDT July 15th in the year of the AGM.

Proposed: 13.5.a - All proposed Constitutional amendments must be submitted to the OABO Secretary noting the Mover, his Local Board, the Seconder, his Local Board, and a rationale for the amendment. The OABO Secretary must receive all amendments, no later than 2359:59 EDT 60 days prior to the date of the AGM.

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Current 13.5.b - All proposed amendments received by the OABO Secretary as in 13.5.a shall be forwarded to the Chair of the Constitution Committee no later than 2359:59 EDT August 5th of that year. The Chair of the Constitutional Committee shall cause a recommendation, through the Committee, to be developed as to the disposition of the proposed amendment, with a rationale for the decision and return the same to the OABO Secretary by no later than 2359:59 EDT August 15th in that year. All such amendments will be published in, "The Whistle" prior to the AGM of that year stating the recommendation and rationale if determined.

Proposed: 13.5.b - All proposed amendments received by the OABO Secretary as in 13.5.a shall be forwarded to the Chair of the Constitution Committee no later than 2359:59 EDT of the <u>55th day prior to the AGM</u>. The Chair of the Constitutional Committee shall cause a recommendation, through the Committee, to be developed as to the disposition of the proposed amendment, with a rationale for the decision and return the same to the OABO Secretary by no later than 2359:59 EDT <u>30 days prior to the AGM</u>. All such amendments will be published in, "The Whistle" prior to the AGM of that year stating the recommendation and rationale if determined.

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Current: 13.6 All proposed Constitutional amendments must be communicated to the Local Board contacts on file with the OABO Secretary no later than August 30th of the year of the AGM via e-mail. In addition, the Secretary shall also make the amendments available to the fall Whistle Edition and the OABO Website.

Proposed: 13.6 All proposed Constitutional amendments must be communicated to the Local Board contacts on file with the OABO Secretary no later than <u>15 days prior to the date of the AGM</u> via e-mail. In addition, the Secretary shall also make the amendments available to the fall Whistle Edition and the OABO Website.

Rationale:

Dates changed to number of days prior to AGM instead of absolute dates due to the moving of the AGM dates earlier in the month of Septem

Motion 2: Charles Freeman Seaway Valley Second Andre Lemaire Ottawa

Current: By-Law 4. EXECUTIVE HONOURARIUM a) Up to \$8,000.00 shall be allocated annually to the Executive, Editor and Regional Representative(s) for the purposes of honorariums. b) Distribution amounts to be determined by the Executive of that given year, subject to the approval of the voting delegates at the AGM.

Proposed: By-Law 4. EXECUTIVE HONOURARIUM a) Up to \$12,000.00 shall be allocated annually to the Executive, Editor and Regional Representative(s) for the purposes of honorariums. b) Distribution amounts to be determined by the Executive of that given year, subject to the approval of the voting delegates at the AGM.

Provincial Supervisor Update—Tim Laurain

IOT (Individual Officiating Techniques) Training

Phase One – Train the Educator

Thank you to those local board representatives who have participated in the Referee Educator initiative for delivery of the IOTs to local boards. We have had four one-day training sessions and have had 19 local boards participate to date. A further thank you to the four local boards who hosted; York, Sudbury, Brantford and Belleville.

The IOTs are the fundamental building blocks for officiating as identified by FIBA and should be integrated in all official's training as we move forward. Each Board has been asked to send a representative to a "train-the-trainer" (Referee Educator being the term FIBA uses) session for IOTs. There are two remaining sessions scheduled; Aug 31st in Toronto and Sep 7th in London. The goal is to have the local boards having had at least one referee educator participate in one of the six sessions. I have commitments from all but two of the remaining boards (besides the 19 who have already participated) to attend either Toronto or London and I will follow-up with the other two.

These sessions provide some quality control in respect to consistency of delivery and messaging of the IOT modules at the local board level by having the educators participate in consistent training and then take back to the local board.

Phase Two – Local Board Delivery

Local boards are being asked to deliver the 9 IOT modules (approximately 20 – 30 minutes each) at the local board level. Recognizing that local boards have varying educational strategies what is being asked is that the local boards incorporate the training modules as they see fit into their schedule for the upcoming year. There is no requirement to cover all 9 modules, what is covered is up to the local boards. For example, if a board has 4 educational meetings a year and wants to cover 1 IOT a meeting, then they get 4 done this year. Other boards may be more aggressive and have more meetings or want to run a half-day training day or other. The delivery is up to the local board.

The idea moving forward is that IOT modules would be represented in official's profiles in Game Plan. As such, I ask that we (local board and I) work together to track what is delivered and to whom during the year. We can discuss this further as the year unfolds.

More important for boards entering their planning for the upcoming year's education is to incorporate the IOTs as you see fit.

OABO 2PO Camps

This past summer, OABO did not run any 2PO (2-person officiating) camps associated with the OBA U12 TDIP programs. In reviewing with the OBA, we will target brand new officials and/or prospective officials for this level again next year. This will benefit boards who have limited resources at the local level to train prospects/new officials. Depending on demand, we will run either one, two or none.

Two 2PO camps were run in conjunction with the OBA U14 TDIP programs at Georgian College in July. The camp content was revamped from previous years. The goal was to engage, motivate and facilitate self-development tools in the participants.

Camp Sessions included interactive sessions on:

Developing as An Official/Development Tools and Strategies

Image of a Referee: Strong and Decisive Signals – practice, modeling, video analysis

Individual Officiating Technique Modules: Refereeing the Defense, Distance and Stationary, Positioning and Open Angles and Staying With The Play

FIBA Rules and Play Breakdown by Rules Criteria via Video

2PO Positioning and Mechanics

Strong, Decisive and Approachable Communication with Coaches

Pre-game (Development and Delivery)

Post-game (video analysis)

Officials officiated 3x3 games, 4-on-4 and then 5-on-5 games with real-time feedback and video-based post game debriefing.

Continuing the focus on best adult learning practices, game footage was made on the last day and sent to the officials. They were then asked to apply their learning from the camp in analysing their own tape and creating their own action plan going forward into next season. The analysis and action plan is then sent to their referee-coach (staff) from camp for review and suggestions. The format was very well received by staff and officials.

NOCP 1 and 2 Revamp

The NOCP 1 and 2 assessment criteria and tools have been updated and now reside on Game Plan. I will be following up with the local boards in respect to introducing and utilizing this upcoming season. As always, I invite any and all questions, feedback and suggestions on the above or other in respect to my portfolio as Provincial Supervisor and as the National Educator for Ontario.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Tim

Interpreter's Report- Mike McPhee

As summer winds down, it's a good time to start preparing for the "new" season beginning in September. It is true that for a great many of us there is no "off season" anymore with various types of basketball play that runs all summer. That said, it is important to remember that the various levels of scholastic basketball and youth club team basketball begin again with fresh seasons as the leaves turn. They expect us to be fresh, up to date and ready to ref their games.

As an organization we have education sessions beginning in the fall, which help prepare us for the task at hand. The OABO Seminar will take place in Toronto on September 6-8, and is an excellent opportunity for OABO members to get inspired for the year ahead. Local board education session this year will include the IOT training modules from CBOC that cover the essential skills needed on the court, along with presentations on rules.

Unlike in past years, there will not be a bunch of new rule changes to present and process before the season starts. That's a good thing in a number of ways. For one, there isn't likely going to be something totally different to get our heads around like we had to with the new travel rule and the additional unsportsmanlike fouls of 2017, or the technical foul situations we faced in 2018. For another, it will allow us to concentrate on perfecting our understanding and application of the rules that exist now. Too often in the past rule changes seemed to overshadow what we already knew and led to mistakes because we didn't focus on the "old" rules that still needed review.

During the clinics that rolled out the IOTs this summer there were some "misinterpretations" of rules that were revealed. I'd like to focus on a couple of them.

Travelling

Yes, that one again. We have created a problem because of the terminology we use when describing the rule when a player in motion catches the ball or ends a dribble. It arises whenever a coach disagrees with a travel ruling.

The rule states: A player who catches the ball while he is progressing, or upon completion of a dribble, may take two steps in coming to a stop, passing or shooting the ball. The first step occurs when one foot or both feet touch the floor after gaining control of the ball. The second step occurs after the first step when the other foot touches the floor or both feet touch the floor simultaneously. Unfortunately we have complicated the situation by using the term "zero step". A zero step doesn't exist but by using it, we have created a belief that it does. Hence coaches will either complain that a "zero step" has been or should have been given. Moreover many of them believe that this mythical step actually occurs on the floor. So let's STOP using the term at all.

Our other problem with travelling is that over focusing on the moving control situation, we have forgotten to enforce the stationary travel rules, and the rule when a player STOPS on step one. We will need to be consistent with this as the season gets underway, because there will be some re-learning that has to occur for the coaches.

Advantage/Disadvantage

This term doesn't exist anymore. FIBA wants a clean game. Our decisions about contact have to focus on the following concept. If contact by a player on an opponent impedes the Rhythm, Speed, Balance, or Quickness of that opponent then we have a foul. The idea of "playing through contact" can't be the guideline for decision making. It has led to a rougher game at the more athletic level of play because we decide that if the basket was made then the contact could be ignored. This makes players agitated and increases rough play. It is true that it takes more force to affect the RSBQ of stronger players, than it does of U-10 players but our focus must always be on "what happened when the contact occurred". If there was an effect then there is a foul. Let's make sure we are talking about this at our local meeting/training sessions before the season gets going.

Screens and Hand checking

We need to make sure that we are ready to see screens, and their effect on the RSBQ of the person being screened. We need to know what the parameters for legal screens are and how the cylinder principle is a part of them. Once again we have to be cognizant of the reason that we need to rule a foul. If contact caused by a player in any way restricts the freedom of movement of an opponent, such contact is a foul. It isn't where a screen happens, that makes it important. If the aspects of a foul are there (freedom of movement) then the whistle needs to sound. Non-called illegal screens lead to rough play.

Hand checking comments are increasing. That means we aren't getting them. Once more this needs to be a focus. Freedom of movement restricted = foul. Not calling hand checking leads to rough play. And remember it isn't just HAND checking. We see all sorts of subtle uses of backs of hands, forearms etc. by players who have been coached that such contact is not hand checking.

So, there you have it.

Three core areas of game control that all of us can focus upon, review and get ready to rule when the season starts. As of this writing only about 30 people have registered for the OABO seminar. We have over 1000 members in this province who officiate. Much learning can be done there.

Hope to see you there.

Mike

Treasurer's Report—Arthur Wong

This is going to be very short. I will be preparing local boards statements prior to the AGM. Please note that I have an engagement with CPA Canada from late July until the first week in September so please expect, and I apologize in advance for, delays in responses.

Enjoy the rest of your summer

Arthur

AGM SEMINAR WEEKEND UPDATE— Justin Walsh

Fellow OABO members

I hope the summer is well underway for everyone and all you are enjoying time with family and friends. I am writing about the upcoming OABO Seminar and AGM weekend - September 6-8, 2019. I wanted to give an update on our planning progress and to ask you for your continued support.

First, I would like to thank all the local boards who have decided to sponsor the weekend with an ad in the programme, and all the individual OABO members who committed to being a Patron Sponsor. This is much appreciated by the organizing committee.

We look forward to hosting you in some way, there are several options to take advantage of the weekend:

- 1. Full Weekend Package \$180 (all sessions, Fri & Sat hospitality rooms and Wall of Fame Banquet (a \$250 value). All full weekend registrants will receive a welcome package.
- 2. Saturday Seminar only \$60 includes coffee break and Lunch (does not include Wall of Fame Banquet and Hospitality Rooms)
- 3. Wall of Fame Banquet only \$75
- 4. Golf Blue Springs Golf Club \$135 (includes green fee w/cart, Lunch (burger or dog & chips). The long range forecast is calling for sunny skis.....If you are a fan of golf and want to spend an enjoyable day with your fellow officials, please consider registering to play.

The online registration, through the www.OABO.ca website, is up-to-date with hotel information and the Patron Sponsorship option. If you plan to attend the entire weekend, you will need to book your hotel room by the **hotel deadline of August 15** in order to get the rate of \$150. Please remember that we sold out last year, so please do not hesitate to book your room.

The "Something for Everyone" committee is running a 'Patron Sponsorship Program'. In this initiative, individual officials may choose to support the AGM program. They can do this by purchasing a BRONZE sponsorship for \$25, a SILVER sponsorship for \$50 or a GOLD sponsorship for \$100. Each sponsor or 'Patron' of the AGM will be listed in a 'Patron Sponsorship Program' page in the AGM program. Each patron's ID card will be in the colour of his or her sponsorship. Also there will be a special sponsorship patron's draw. OABO members can select to be a 'Patron' when they register for the weekend.

If you can not make the weekend, yet would still like to support as a Patron, you can send sponsorship cheques to Bruce Chapman (613 329 8348) at 325 Ridge Road, Deseronto, Ontario K0K 1X0 and/or email bchapmanmain@gmail.com. Please make cheques payable to 'BQBABO'. E-transfers to Bruce are also acceptable.

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Our Saturday education seminar is coming together nicely. We will indeed have "Something for Everyone". Confirmed and potential presenters range from our OABO interpreter, a panel of coaches from three levels (HS, OCAA and USport), NBL perspective, grassroots officiating, CBOC updates (IOT training, NOCP levels, etc), Rowan's Law - what refs need to know, just to mention a few.

We hope to have a special keynote speaker too - more to come.

I know that the OABO Executive are planning a wonderful Wall of Fame dinner to recognize the contributions of many of our members. The organizing committee will also have a 50/50 draw and silent auction items to bid on.

We are planning for a great event and are looking forward to seeing many members there.

Sincerely,

Justin Walsh
President of the BQBABO
Chair of the OABO 2019 Seminar and AGM weekend

From the Desk of the Secretary—Don Thorne

We have received nominations for the three incumbents for this year's elections. Mike McPhee, Arthur Wong and I will be running for re-election. Nominations are still open until August 12th if anyone wants to run please have your nominee send me an email.

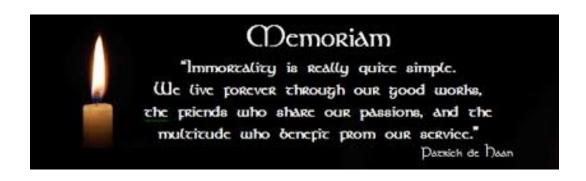
We have only two Constitution Amendments motions this year and they can be found on page 6 and 7.

Rick mentioned at last year's AGM that we planned on reformatting the OABO Constitution into very simple Articles with added documents for Procedures. I have completed the first **draft** and this will be presented for all in attendance at the AGM. The plan is to open communications with respect to modifying the draft and to present it for acceptance at next years AGM. The motion at that time will include a come into effect date which is expected to be October 1 2020. The purpose of this new format is three-fold. One being to make it more simple to understand and follow. The second is to be more in compliance to the new Not –For -Profit Corporations Act. The third is to add wording so that we will work with all basketball groups in the Province which means all our officials are covered for every game worked no matter the league.

I don't really have anything more for this issue. All the rain in June has made the fairways and greens lush and I am heading out there shortly.

See you all at the Seminar Weekend.

Don



Condolences to:

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