



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE THE WHISTLE

OCAA

The OCAA has requested to continue with the Regional Assigning Format for the 2018-2019 season. On the Local Board Presidents Conference Call on May 10 there were 7 Local Boards who stated they will not support Regional Assigning for this coming year. More discussion will need to take place on this matter at the OABO AGM. I have extended an invitation to Kyle Pelly, OCAA Executive Director to attend our AGM.

IAABO

I attended the IAABO Spring AGM April 19-22 in Ocean City Maryland. We are currently working with IAABO to produce the 2018-2019 IAABO/FIBA Hand book with the goal to have all books distributed to Local Boards by September 1, in time for their Fall Registration Meetings.

2018 LOCAL BOARD PRESIDENTS MEETING

The meeting was conducted by Conference Call on Thursday, May 10. There were 24 Local Boards that took part. Agenda Items discussed were as follows:

1. OCAA Regional Assigning
2. CABO/FIBA Exam
3. 2018 OABO Seminar
4. 2018-2019 OFSAA FIBA /Modifications
5. NOCP Certification Levels
6. 2018-2019 IAABO/FIBA Handbook
7. 2018 OABO Development Camps
8. Notification for Provincial & National Championships
9. OCAA Men's Provincial Championship Evaluations
10. U15 & U17 National Appointments
11. OABO & CABO Award Nominations
12. Constitution Committee
13. OBA Fair Play Committee
14. Concussion Protocol/Rowan's Law
15. OABO/OUA Exit Strategy
16.
 - a. CBOC/CABO Referee Instructor Course
 - b. Future Officiating Licensing Fees
 - c. Canada Basketball On-Line Educational Website
 - d. Provincial Commissions & Future of CABO Executive

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OABO DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

I attended the All-Female Officials Two Person Camp hosted by Basketball Ontario in conjunction with the U14 Girls Ontario Cup at Sheridan College. This program is important as it continues to grow the pool of female officials that have the opportunity to participate in these type of activities, network and build a support system with other female officials across the Province. Unfortunately, this was the weekend of the ice storm and only Friday games were officiated but the overall feedback was extremely positive.

I was on Camp Staff for the 3 Person Pre-Elite Camp U17 OBA Girls Provincial Championships of which 23 officials attended. I was responsible for the Assigning of the Officials and the writing of the evaluations. Those evaluations have been emailed out to all officials with copies to Camp Director Bruce Covert, Provincial Secretary Tim Laurain & OABO Secretary Don Thorne who will be providing copies of the evaluations to the Local Boards of those officials. I want to acknowledge and thank all the Camp Staff that assisted Camp Director Bruce Covert. Assistant Camp Directors James Wallace & Frances Enns, Mario Suffolletta, Guy Cipriani, Brigg Harvey, Tim Laurain

I will also be on Camp Staff for the Elite Camp as part of the U19 Boy's Provincial Championships in Kingston. I will again be responsible for Assigning and writing evaluations of the 29 Officials attending. I am pleased to announce that we have 3 officials from Quebec, 1 from Alberta & 1 from Nova Scotia attending the Camp. As well Camp Staff will include Alfie Paoletti and Max Audette from Quebec and Matt Boyle from Nova Scotia. This continues to demonstrate the high esteem our OABO Development Camps are held in across the Country.

OABO will also be running two Novice Officials Camps for individuals with no officiating experience at Georgian College in Barrie. Camp #1 will run from July 16-18 and Camp #2 will run from July 19-21. Some knowledge of FIBA rules would be helpful but is not necessary. The ideal candidate for these camps is an individual between the ages of 15-25 who is currently playing or has played basketball at the high school and/or club ball levels and have no officiating experience. Other assets considered are, to be in very good physical condition, with a desire to learn and a keen interest in exploring the possibility of becoming a basketball official. We will be taking 18 officials per Camp. The limited enrollment will allow for a great deal of personal attention from the Camp Staff which will include current and former OUA officials as well as OABO Provincial Evaluators.

There are currently 2 spots left in Camp #1 and 6 spots left in Camp #2. The fee is \$50.00 which includes 2 nights accommodation, meals, videotaping, Camp T-shirt, Fox 40 whistle and a Camp Evaluation.

The last camps of the summer will be held in conjunction with the U14 Girls & U14 Boys Ontario Summer Games that are being held at Fanshawe College in London August 3-5. This camp will include a 2 person & a 3-person sector. The registration fee is \$275.00 and includes three nights accommodation. meals. Videotaping, Camp T-Shirt, Fox 40 Whistle and Camp evaluation. There are currently 4 spots left in the 2-person Camp and 5 spots left in the 3-person Camp.

CLOSING REMARKS

The OABO Executive is once again hosting the OABO Seminar & AGM September 7 to September 9 at the 4-star Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel located at 901 Dixon Road. You will find in this Edition a listing of the prices for the purchase of Ads in the Seminar Program Booklet. We would certainly appreciate any and all support from Local Boards. The online registration will begin on June 1, and you can start booking your online accommodation on June 9. The room rate is \$149.00 a night.

Jaime McCaig
President, OABO

2018 Pre-Elite Camp



Gidon Frank (York), Graham Anderson (Durham), Tim Persaud (Peel), Denise Marshall (TABO), Noel Parker (Thunder Bay), Emir Uzunovic (York), Ramzi Abdi (KW), Anthony Yacub (TABO), Nick Novacich (Elgin), Nicki Miller (Hamilton), Eric Lunn (Guelph), Mark Bullock (KW), Hansel Adu (York), Joel Wood (York), Amy Cotton (TABO), Alex Trezic (TABO), Sicong Ma (Ottawa), Dennis Dai (TABO), Maxence Coulombe (Montreal), Mihir Chinoy (Peel), Christopher Buccella (Hamilton), Bryan Gray (Ottawa), Jessica Boutilier (North Bay), Brian Israel (York).

INTERPRETER'S REPORT - MIKE MCPHEE

It is unfortunate in our society that children have to die before protective legislation is put in place. In Ontario we have two laws named after girls whose death's in situations where they were considered to be in safe supervision places, prompted inquests and subsequent legislation to prevent such occurrences from happening again.

On September 30, 2003 Sabrina Shannon died in hospital following an anaphylactic reaction that occurred in school. Almost a year after Sabrina's death, the chief coroner for Eastern Ontario, called for the implementation of comprehensive anaphylaxis management plans in the schools. The law, which was named after Sabrina, took effect January 1, 2006. It requires school boards to have all principals implement **anaphylaxis plans** that include strategies to reduce exposure to allergens, procedures to communicate to parents, students and employees about life-threatening allergies, and regular training on dealing with life-threatening allergies for teachers and staff.

Rowan Stringer, a talented rugby player, died at Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario on May 12, 2013 — Mother's Day — after suffering two concussions within a week while playing the game she loved. She was 17. A coroner's inquest into her death discovered that youth sport concussion protocols in Canada, fell far short of those implemented south of the border. The first of the jury's 49 recommendations, released in June, called for Ontario to adopt "Rowan's Law," an act governing the management of youth concussions in all sports.

On March 6, 2018 the Ontario legislature passed Bill 193 (Named Rowan's law), and amended the Education Act to also include Concussion protocols.

Key points of Rowan's Law

A sport organization must establish a concussion code of conduct. Various individuals must confirm that they have reviewed a sport organization's concussion code of conduct.

A sport organization must establish a removal-from-sport protocol for athletes who are suspected of having sustained a concussion. The protocol must, among other things, establish a specific process to implement the immediate removal of an athlete and must designate persons who are responsible for ensuring the removal of the athlete and ensuring that they do not return to training, practice or competition, except in accordance with the sport organization's return-to-sport protocol.

A sport organization is required to establish a return-to-sport protocol that applies with respect to athletes who have sustained a concussion or are suspected of having sustained a concussion. The protocol must, among other things, establish a specific process to implement the return of an athlete to training, practice or competition and must designate persons who are responsible for ensuring that an athlete does not return until permitted to do so in accordance with the protocol.

Requirement, coaches, etc.

A sport organization shall not permit an individual to serve as a coach for the sport organization or to serve in any other prescribed position, **such as an official**, in respect of the sport organization unless the individual gives the sport organization confirmation that they have reviewed the concussion awareness resources at the prescribed times and in accordance with the prescribed requirements.

Concussion code of conduct

A sport organization shall establish a concussion code of conduct that satisfies the requirements set out in the regulations.

Removal-from-sport protocol

Every sport organization shall establish a removal-from-sport protocol for its athletes that,

- (a) establishes, in accordance with such requirements as may be prescribed, a specific process to implement the immediate removal of an athlete who is suspected of having sustained a concussion;
- (b) designates persons who are responsible for ensuring that,
 - (i) an athlete is immediately removed from further training, practice or competition if the athlete is suspected of having sustained a concussion,
 - (ii) if the athlete is under 18 years of age or such other age as may be prescribed, the parent or guardian is informed of the removal,
 - (iii) such persons or entities as may be prescribed are informed of the removal, and
 - (iv) once removed, the athlete is not permitted to return to training, practice or competition, except in accordance with the sport organization's return-to-sport protocol.
- (c) sets out the responsibilities of other prescribed persons if they suspect that an athlete has sustained a concussion during training, practice or competition; and
- (d) satisfies such other requirements as may be prescribed.

As Ontario basketball officials, we have been ahead of this legislation for a number of years. Our requirements under NFHS rules regarding concussions were set out in an appendix to the rules. The signs and symptoms of a concussion were laid out and both coaches and officials were required to remove an athlete from the game if **any of them** were observed. They also have a catch phrase as follows: If In Doubt... Sit Them Out!

Both OPHEA and Basketball Ontario are in line with the NFHS system. Ofsaa follows the OPHEA guidelines and Basketball Ontario and OABO have published the protocol in the OBA Age Specific Parameters Chart for Officials. Specifically that information reads as follows:

Concussion Prevention and Management Policy (Ontario Basketball)

If during a game or the interval of play preceding the game, an athlete, sustains a direct or indirect force to the head and subsequently exhibits signs, symptoms (see below) and/or functional changes consistent with a concussion, the athlete should be immediately removed from play and receive immediate medical assessment.

The symptoms are: **Loss of consciousness, Seizure or convulsion, Amnesia, Headache, "Pressure in head", Neck Pain, Nausea or vomiting, Dizziness, Blurred vision, Balance problems, Sensitivity to light or noise, Feeling slowed down or "in a fog", "Don't feel right", Difficulty concentrating or remembering, Fatigue or low energy, Confusion, Drowsiness, More emotional, Irritability, Sadness, Nervous or anxious.**

The key points in Ofsaa games are listed below, and are applied if a concussion is suspected. (i.e. any of the above symptoms were observed.)

Remove the student/player from the current game or practice.
The athlete needs to be evaluated by a medical doctor.
The athlete must not return to play in the game or practice that day.

It is clear that with the passing of Rowan's Law, the **Sport Organizations** that we deal with will be required to either get their protocols approved or create ones that satisfy the requirements. It is pretty clear under the legislation that our local boards will have to make sure that officials have reviewed the concussion awareness resources at the prescribed times and in accordance with the prescribed requirements, whatever they may be.

As officials we have a duty to make sure that games are Safe Fair and Fun. Under the Safe aspect we must not let any kind of dangerous situations occur. It is NOT up to us to quote the new law as a reason for removing a player, but since there are protocols in place when we officiate OBA or Ofsaa basketball games, we should apply them.

With the approach of summer most of us will look forward to some time off for a chance to rest, recuperate and recharge for next fall. To those of you who do that, enjoy the time away. For those of you who continue to run the court, keep your awareness sharp and ensure the game is safe.

From the Desk of the Secretary/Treasurer & IAABO D9 Rep

IAABO News

The Canadian contingent who attended the IAABO spring conference in Ocean City Maryland included Jaime & Cathy McCaig, Rick Parnham, Dennis Herbert, Mike & Ursula McPhee, Bruce and Danice Covert, Gene and Marie Schaaf, Tim Laurain, Tina Thorne and myself. The highlight of the meeting was watching Jaime receive his IAABO Life Membership.

With the mandate of CBOC moving towards their own education program, a few OABO boards are rescinding their IAABO Charter. IAABO is aware that this is happening and may continue to happen in the future. CBOC will not entertain a partnership agreement with an US based organization. There are, and will continue to be, some loyal IAABO members who want to maintain their IAABO membership even if their board does not. OABO Board 102 will accept any IAABO member wishing to transfer their current membership. All you have to do is contact either Donnie Eppley eppleyd@comcast.net or myself.

OABO News

Since our last publication two OABO members Christine Vuong (TABO) was selected as an official and Nadine Crowley (Ottawa) was selected as an instructor to participate in the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Australia. The competition was held April 4-15, 2018 in Gold Coast, Australia.

OABO is very proud of Christine and Nadine and we are sure they have tons of stories to tell.

OABO WEB SITE UPDATE

I have updated the website by changing “The Whistle” tab to “Newsletters”. This tab now contains archives of “The Whistle” and also links to view “Post Play” as well as letters or notices from CBOC.

2018 OABO AGM

The AGM information and registration is being finalized. Look for the on-line registration including hotel information under the AGM block or news item on the www.OABO.ca website.

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel 901 Dixon Road September 6 to 9th 2018—Rooms are \$149 per night

On-line registration will be posted on our web site very soon.

Pricing will be as follows

Full Weekend Package (includes all sessions, hospitality rooms for all nights, Wall of Fame Banquet \$275 Value)

Before September 1st \$175 after September 1st \$200

Wall of Fame Banquet (includes hospitality room) Before September 1st \$95 after September 1st \$120

Hospitality room for Friday night before September 1st \$50 after September 1st \$ 75

Hospitality room for Saturday night only before September 1st \$30 after September 1st \$50

Saturday sessions only (does not include Wall of Fame Banquet or Hospitality room) before September \$70 after September \$100

Golf will be extra . This year we have the golden opportunity to play Glen Abbey. This will include green fees and cart only – Before September 1st \$175 (taxes in) after September 1st \$225

OABO Deadlines:

Please review the next items carefully. The deadline dates are extremely important.

****URGENT**:** Next year rule book orders must be in **no later than Friday July 1st**. This year’s book is dedicated to Jaime McCaig . **NOTE:** IAABO members receive the FIBA handbook as part of their IAABO membership, extra books can be ordered at \$45 Cdn each. The order form is on-line on the www.oabo.ca site under the Secretary Resources button.

Nominations for OABO Award of Merit will be accepted up to midnight **July 1, 2018**. The OABO Award of Merit nomination must come from Local Boards and are presented annually to OABO members in recognition of their contribution to a Local Board. Last year we presented two awards to truly deserving candidates.

Local Board Reports are due **no later than August 1st**. Please email them to me in either Word or PDF format. Reports should include the names and contact info of your Executive Committees, number of officials, number of games assigned, accomplishments of the members of your board i.e. OFSAA championships etc, and anything else you want to ramble on about as long as it can be printed on preferably one page, 2 pages max.

The three OABO Executive Positions that are up for election this year are President, Vice President, and Provincial Supervisor. As per the OABO Constitution, Jaime is completing his 2nd 2 year term and cannot be nominated for the position of President. Rick and Tim have been reminded that they need to provide me with communication on their intent for running re-election to their positions **no later than August 1st**. I will notify the Local Board Presidents and Secretaries by email on or before August 15th of those intending to stand for re-election. After August 15th, according to Article 8.3.2: "Any member of the OABO in good standing, other than a present Executive member, who wishes to nominate an OABO member in good standing for election to a position on the OABO Executive at an AGM as per Article 8.2 must submit, to the OABO Secretary-Treasurer, **by August 31st** in the year of that AGM 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. The OABO Secretary-Treasurer will forward the names of all candidates to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards by September 5, of the year of that AGM by e-mail."

Any proposed change to the Constitution must be submitted to Rick Parnham **no later than July 15th**. The Constitution Committee will send back all proposed changes which I will send to the Local Board Presidents and Secretaries by email on or before August 31st.

These two clauses will have to be modified to meet our new AGM date which has been moved earlier in the month. Rest assured I will have info out to the boards way before the deadlines.

CABO's Ritchie/Nicurity Scholarship deadline for application is **August 31st**. Keep in mind there are several things needed to complete the application. Information and forms can be found at www.cabocanada.org and click the "Forms" button.

Odds and ends

I have enclosed an interesting article on why coaches yell at officials and it is not what you expect. I want to thank Dan Berry (KW) for sending it to me. It starts on page 13.

Well that's about it for me. I always end on a golf note especially since we are in that time of year so.... Lfor the past two years I mentioned that I was team captain of The Bogey Men in our Men's Night League out at Conestoga Golf Course. My team won the league again last year and yes there were more than 2 teams (10 actually). There has only been one other person to captain back to back wins. Two was tough..... Three I highly doubt but The Bogey Men will not go down without a fight to the finish.

Enjoy your summer.

Don

NORTHERN REPORT

Submitted by Northern Rep Brian Seccareccia

Another basketball season has concluded in the North and the officials have put away their whistles and are looking forward to the summer and enjoying their favorite summer activity whether it is golfing, fishing, camping, travelling or just relaxing. We hope everyone has a safe summer and will be revitalized to start the basketball season in the fall. We look forward to seeing everyone at our AGM in September. Listed below are some of the highlights of the Northern Boards.

MUSKOKA/PARRY SOUND - Submitted by Paul Doiron

We are entering that part of the year when the bulk of the officiating has been completed and thoughts of summer and golf become uppermost in our minds. MPSAO has had a very successful season having officiated over 800 games again this year. Our board was honoured to host and officiate the Senior Girls AA Provincial Championship in Muskoka and Parry Sound, offering our communities a rare opportunity to witness some outstanding and high caliber basketball. Even as we look to the year ahead, it is important to acknowledge and thank our members for their efforts in making this a very successful season of basketball as considerable teamwork and collaboration with all our stake holders is necessary to achieve our goal of effectively officiating each and every game in a geography as large as ours. Thanks to all — have a great summer.

NORTH BAY - Submitted by John Fong

There is not too much happening on the basketball scene in North Bay at the moment. We sent some officials to help out at the Ontario Cups in Niagara Falls and Milton. Jessica Boultier will be attending the OABO Pre-Elite Camp this summer. Listed below is our new executive for 2018-19:

President Rick Cowden

Vice-President Desi Collins

Secretary/Treasurer John Fong

Interpreter Rob Roy

Assignor Phil Forbes

SAULT STE. MARIE - Submitted by Jeff Bussineau

It is very quiet on the basketball scene in the Sault. We have two officials who will be attending basketball camps - Chris Spooney went to the Canada West Camp in Saskatoon and John Duke will be attending the OABO U-12 Basketball Camp this summer.

TIMMINS - Submitted by Pierre Thibodeau

The boys' high school season ended at the end of February and so did our men's and women's league. It has been quiet since but we had good season. We still have a few OBA games and exhibitions going on. Congratulations to the following officials; Evan Colameco, Rick Cornell, Angelo Lia and Pierre Paul Thibodeau who again this year took the winter road and went to Moose Factory to help officiate the *Moose Cree Basketball Tournament*.

We sent two officials, Denis Giles and Pierre Paul Thibodeau, to Sudbury to officiate the Intermediate Franco Tournament. We are now looking forward towards the fall. Thank you for our association members for their hard work and dedication again this year on in providing quality officiating in all communities. We are still looking to bring in some new officials in the association. We will be offering some training/clinic for new officials in the area.

THUNDER BAY - Submitted by Rod Miller

TBBO has wrapped up a busy spring with executive elections and we welcome Kathy Williams to the executive of our association. Noel Parker attended the Development Camp held by OABO. We continue to officiate club games the last few weeks. We hope everyone has a safe and great summer.

GREATER SUDBURY — Submitted by Charles Ketter

Once more it has been a busy Spring for GSSBO with numerous elementary tournaments and the inclusion of a new recreational league in Espanola. The Franco Provincial Elementary consumed the first few days of May. The 100+ games allowed us to invite officials from local northern boards to work with our local members. Several of our younger officials made themselves available to work during the day and enjoyed the experience of working with visiting officials.

Discussion in April with a group in Espanola led to an agreement to supply officials twice a week for a coed recreational league. With the cooperation of the weather, officials enjoyed the double headers which provided opportunities for those working the games to build on their skills. At this time a Summer Men's League at Cambrian has yet to be announced but several members are anxious to engage in these games as they have been competitive and help to keep their skills sharp.

At this time we are planning for our local Annual General Meeting. No Constitutional amendments have been registered and the positions of President and Treasurer are open. A report on the President's meeting will be presented at that time and should lead to a good discussion of moving forward in Canadian officiating. Hopefully CABO, CBOC and Canada Basketball will be able to supply more information of their national plans going forward so all members can be well informed.

The change in OFSAA variations has been well received. We continue to look forward to the day when a decision to move completely to FIBA is made. The increasing number of local high school coaches who have taken on the role of working with OBA club teams has also had a positive influence changing the High School variations as many of them are promoting the adjustments.

Looking forward to rejuvenation through a hopefully enjoyable summer GSBBO is already planning and preparing for the Fall of 2018. Enjoy the time and register for a camp!

Jaime McCaig receiving IAABO Life Membership



ONTARIO BASKETBALL NEWS— Jason R. Jansson, Executive Director

We wanted to share with you that Ontario Basketball is currently accepting nominations for the [Ontario Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2018](#). Individuals or teams can be nominated into the Hall of Fame. Nominees must be residents of Ontario or have been born in Ontario or made their distinguished contribution to the game of basketball in Ontario. There are five induction categories: Athletes, Coaches, Builders, Teams, and **Officials**.

The [nomination criteria](#) and [nomination form](#) are both available on the Ontario Basketball website.

<https://basketball.on.ca/call-for-nominations-ontario-basketball-hall-of-fame-2018/>

The nomination period for the Class of 2018 closes on Friday, June 15.

Please distribute this recognition opportunity to your networks. We would love to receive multiple nominations for consideration this year. Additionally, if you have any ideas of potential candidates, please contact [Katrina Krawec](#) or [Maria Suriani](#).

Yours in basketball,



KUMAR CLASSIC

Ontario's Premier 3x3
Charity Basketball Tournament

SATURDAY JUNE 16
Conestoga College

+ 3 games guaranteed
+ 3 point shootout
+ Prizes galore

Register @ www.3v3KumarClassic.com

Proceeds to support:
Brain Tumor Foundation of Canada &
Jay Kumar Memorial Scholarship

   3v3KumarClassic

Vice President's Message— Rick Parnham

As we head into the slow season over the summer, it is a good time to relax, heal and reflect on a few pertinent issues.

Firstly, I want to congratulate Jaime McCaig on his recent awarding of Life Membership in IAABO. It is a well deserved accomplishment and seeing his name added to the likes of Don Thorne, Gene Schaaf, Pat Laing, Ron Foxcroft, Charlie Ketter, Bruce Covert and Dennis Herbert, adds to the wonderful history OABO has with IAABO. Thank you to all Life Members for your incredible work on our behalf.

Fair Play Committee Update: Thank you to all the boards and officials who show great professionalism in reporting incidents involving ejections in OBA completions. Without your diligence we wouldn't be able to address the behaviours and strive to resolve the concerns. This year we have seen far fewer incidents occurring in U-10 to U-12 age groups. The rules related to this age group require anyone ejected from a game whether it be a player, coach or spectator and not be able to participate for the remainder of a weekend tournament. This considerable penalty might be a strong factor in why there are a relatively small number of ejections compared to numbers of teams. However, we have seen a rise in the number of violent acts this year. Fights between players, benches emptying, spectators and coaches involved on the court, all have been reported to us this year. Please take the time to review the rules related to these situations. These are significant incidents and need to be handled correctly, with detailed reports, so we can assess whatever the necessary and appropriate sanctions may be. Getting in the habit of documenting issues in your games is a good habit and now with the upcoming "Rowan's Law," related to concussion administration, filing game reports should become a regular practise following each game you officiate.

The Changing Landscape: Learning that there is going to be a push for the creation of a provincial officials commission, similar in design and scope to CBOC, this will change the basketball officiating landscape as we know it. As a result, the constitution committee is holding off doing the wholesale rework of OABO's governance documents for the time being. With the exit from the OUA contract and talk of things changing with respect to OCAA in the future, we have decided to focus on items we know require attention. We will be continuing our work on complying with the Not-for-Profit Act legislation, redesigning how members are provided the opportunity to vote as individuals and all the necessary adjustments that will be required with that provision.

A Great Golfing Opportunity: Some of you may know that Glen Abbey Golf Club has been the home to the Canadian Open for most of the past 30 years. The course has been in the news recently, as a redevelopment plan has proposed to turn the Oakville property into homes. We have been fortunate to secure Glen Abbey for the OABO golf event on September 7, 2018. I hope those that would like the chance to play a piece of golf history and a regular PGA Tour stop will join us for the day.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me should you require any assistance.

Respectfully submitted;

THE PLIGHT OF THE REFEREE: SEVEN REASONS WE (COACHES) YELL

by Jack Bowen

Job Description—Youth Sports Referee:

Oversee games involving emotionally charged athletes, parents, and coaches. Adjudicate what occurred amidst hundreds of instances involving fast-moving athletes and high-speed balls. Athletes will repeatedly fake what's actually going on. Responsible for athlete safety. All the while, coaches, fans, and parents will berate you for any perceived mistakes.

Referees often get overlooked in the world of sports writing. And from the unfortunate actions of many youth sports coaches, parents, and athletes, we can easily recognize how they're often viewed and, consequently, treated. Delving deeper into the "Why?" of this cultural phenomenon provides a perfect opportunity to consider the cause of much of this behavior: our brains.



Credit: Odyssey

Humans have various blind spots looming beneath the surface. Bringing these to the surface is a great first step to help us understand where we've gone wrong in our approach to interacting with referees. Then, with this sort of awareness, we can change our actions accordingly.

1. Confirmation Bias: In short, here's how your brain works: you establish a pet theory and then try to prove yourself right. We like being right. It feels good. And we'd much rather just feel like we're right than go out and challenge our worldview in search of the truth, all the while recognizing where we'd gone wrong.

So, if a coach has established the theory, "The referee—i.e. every referee—is calling the game against us," then that coach counts the instances which confirm his hypothesis—calls that go against him—and ignores those that do not. He experiences the game as if objectively gathering data proving the conclusion: more bad calls against him and, subsequently, this particular referee is terrible. The problem is, it's likely the other coach has been testing the same theory, but for his team. And, thus, both coaches lash out at the supposed injustice of the whole enterprise.

2. Availability Bias: Much of this ties in with our tendency to focus our attention on more recent and more "outstanding" events while overlooking or forgetting all others. The soccer coach becomes wound up by the call that just happened and which seemed egregious because of its implications. But he likely ignores the huge majority of minor calls along the way. Not to mention the countless no-calls throughout the ninety-minute match. Not much to remember: calls were made (or not) and it's time to get on to the next play. But then, the coach perceives what seems to be a bad call against his team, and this call sticks in his mind, adds to his pet theory, and catalyzes the feeling of injustice.

In the "real world," this bias explains why people often fear flying unreasonably following a publicized plane crash, despite the fact that driving to the airport is actually more dangerous, and plane safety at an all-time high. The more available and outstanding an event, the more likely we are to consider it and act (irrationally) accordingly.

3. Naturally Poor Statisticians: Many of the world's greatest scam artists cash in, literally, on the fact that humans just aren't good at statistics. Along with the prior two biases, this is one reason horoscopes and the like seem to work: people go in with the bias thinking it will work (confirmation), then notice when it does (availability), and don't think to add up all of the "misses" along the way. Statistics, instead, help paint a picture of how things really are so we don't get caught up in the emotions of how they seem.

It's certainly too much to ask, amidst the intensity of a competitive game, for coaches to objectively view referee calls and statistically analyze them. But when I've done this, the calls never demonstrate some deep-seated unfairness toward one team. There are occasionally runs of bad calls against one team but, again, that's what we should expect. If you flip an unbiased coin 10,000 times, you shouldn't

be surprised to see an occasional run of 10 consecutive heads—actually, you should be surprised if you don't as you need just over 1,000 flips to expect to see that. Likewise, even a good referee will make a run of bad calls. For many coaches, as they're coaching thousands of hours of games, when this happens they should chalk it up to a statistical run, not some evil intent of the referee.

4. Emotions Get In The Way: Given this competitive nature of coaches, we not only expect them to be emotional, but we want that. How odd it would be for a committed coach to be on the field without any emotional connection to the competition, her players, or the score. But we all know the downside of emotions and how they get the best of us: it's the reason we're advised to let that emotionally-laden email sit in our "Drafts" folder overnight before sending, or to "cool off" before re-engaging in an argument. Physicist Leonard Mlodinow thusly refers to emotions as our "prime source of irrationality." Our emotions truly cloud our ability to access the truth of the matter at hand.

At a high school soccer game I recently attended, at one point, the goalkeeper challenged an offside call against his team on offense. The call was made at the opposite end of the field from the goalie: not only was he the farthest person from the transgression, but he had the worst possible angle to judge it, especially compared to the linesman exactly parallel with the defensive line. Only someone whose emotions had high-jacked his rationality (along with the aforementioned biases) could yell from the opposite side of the field, "Come on ref! That's terrible!"

5. We Don't See Reality: It sure seems like our eyes capture reality, but countless studies and visual illusions, along with a basic understanding of neuroscience shows they do not. So it's not just the case we're giving in to our biases and ignoring what's really happening—in many instances, we don't even see what's actually happening in the first place.

In one famous study, half of the people counting passes made by three basketball players fail to see a large gorilla on screen for 8 seconds of the 30 second video. So, in combination with the above errors, we are now forced to admit we selectively attend to and view phenomena, especially emotionally-charged phenomena to which we bring expectations and pre-conceived notions from the outset.

6. Objects Versus Persons: Somehow, in the world of sports, it's become commonplace to view the referee not as a person—someone just like us, with bills to pay, fears and desires, etc.—but as an object. Worse, as an object preventing us from achieving our goals, such as winning games. Once you view a person as an object, it's easy to treat them as such and not afford them the same moral respect we would any other person.

In my own coaching career, over 18 years in the same league I've gotten to know every referee, to some extent, as a person—one has a sordid story of his upbringing in Croatia, while another has a strong affinity for motorcycles, and yet another wonders if he will ever afford to buy a home in our area. Knowing these sorts of things about someone removes them from the object-category and makes it rather difficult to then publicly berate them from across the playing field.

7. **Negativity Bias:** We feel the negative feelings of losses considerably more than we do the positive feelings of gains. This plays out in the world of investing and often leads to people choosing investments irrationally due to the pain of recent and anticipated losses. Clearly, then, coaches fall prey to this: bad calls hurt more than favorable calls feel good. And that exacerbated sting once again leads to a biased and irrational view of referees.



Credit: The Tribune-Democrat

Once we account for and recognize all of this, we can be reminded of a few things. **First**, referees have a very difficult job, especially at the youth sports level. Consider the job description that started this article. Reflecting on this provides an easy opportunity for empathy.

Secondly, *having now acknowledged our numerous biases and blind spots, consider this question:*

At a point of controversy mid-game, who has a better chance of being correct, the expert non-biased referee or the emotionally-laden coach?

Given that any rational person would have to bet on the referee, coaches can apply this same reasoning to themselves, as keen as we might perceive our respective sense of vision and rational abilities to be.

And **third**, *it's truly part of the job of the interscholastic sports coach to model behavior and proper values for the children they coach—the children they are educating. Once the adult coach begins berating the referee, the players soon follow. This is not to say a coach should remain mute in the face of perceived injustice. At any break (halftime, quarter break, etc.) referees often welcome a well-meaning coach's sincere questions as to how the game is being called, or sharing a concern regarding issues he believes have gone undetected. The athletes are all watching closely.*

As in all walks of life, recognizing our blind spots helps us to better interact with others and allows us to come at our relationships with a heightened understanding and greater compassion and humility. And now, on the playing field, we can return to the roots of competition—to strive together—and include not just our competitors under this banner, but referees as well.



Jack is the author of 4 books, including his latest (co-authored), *Sport, Ethics and Leadership* (July 2017). His other books include San Francisco Chronicle bestseller and Amazon Top-500 selection, *The Dream Weaver* and, *If You Can Read This*, featured in the New York Times, USA Today, and NPR. Jack has coached water polo at Menlo School for the past 18 years where they have won the league championships 16 times. Finally, he spoke at TEDxStanford in 2017 on the topic of awe. Jack graduated from Stanford University with Honors in Human Biology and earned his Masters Degree in philosophy, graduating summa cum laude.

PROVINCIAL SUPERVISOR REPORT—TIM LAURAIN

NOCP Levels, Summer Camps, Congratulations and Thank You

I will start out by recapping information provided on the President's Conference call held earlier this month.

NOCP Levels

Ontario has not utilized the NOCP system compared to that of some other Provinces to date. Although, National appointments do not directly affect most of our membership they do affect those who have worked hard to advance their careers and those who are looking to. This past season the requirement to be a NOCP 4 certified official go to a USports National Championship was enforced by CBOC selection committee. It brought to light that some Ontario officials who deserved to be NOCP 4 and who had National opportunities to be certified in previous years had not in fact been certified. To expedite NOCP certification the OCAA Men's and Women's Championships were staffed in respect to RCs and Assistants to provide the required National Evaluators required for certification. Between the two championships, 8 officials were certified to NOCP 4. Thank you to Bruce Covert, Tom Christie and Rob Ferguson from here in Ontario. A thank you to Morgan Munroe who freed his time and came in from out-of-province. A further thank you to Nadine Crowley, Rob and Tom for making the efforts to certify another 4 officials during the OUA play-offs. We have a further 3 officials going to U17 summer nationals with the opportunity for certification.

At present, OUA play-offs and the OCAA Championships are our only in-province opportunities for NOCP 4 certification. We did apply for the OBA U19 Boys Championships to be one but were denied at this time. Going forward, we will look at re-applying for the U19 Boys and possibly U19 Womens. As well, we will explore the possibility for Juel and OSBA championships to provide more opportunities.

NOCP 3 is provincially certified and 17 officials were certified this past year. Opportunities included the OABO Elite Camp, Juel, IAABO/OABO Official's School and OCAA play-offs. The Pre-elite Camp was considered as was Juel Prep but the determination was that the level of basketball was not sufficient for a true assessment to that level. Moving forward we will continue to identify NOCP 3 opportunities. Local boards have been asked to provide me a list of their immediate potential candidates going into next season, so we can communicate and co-ordinate more efficiently and effectively to get those officials certified.

NOCP 1 and 2 certification is locally board certified. Boards have been adopting/utilizing NOCP at their own pace. Part of the certification is the writing of the CABO National Exam. In Ontario, we have also allowed the writing of the IAABO FIBA Rules Exam as the required exam. It should be noted that of our 1600+ officials in Ontario, only just over 900 wrote the national exam. As a province, the writing of a rules exam by everyone works to provide consistent assessment and achievement in what we recognize as the foundation of basketball officiating – rules knowledge.

We underwent the process of updating the Ontario CABO database to reflect the most current and up-to-date NOCP levels. A revised pathway, published in previous Whistle, is expected to be implemented as early as this Fall. Having our membership accurately recorded in the database should ensure a more problem-free transition to the new pathway. As part of this process, a re-write exam

was provided if Boards wanted to use it for those officials who didn't qualify NOCP 1 or 2 and were deserving by the other criteria.

It is a work in progress.

Summer Camps Update

Pre-Elite

Twenty-three (23) officials completed the 3PO pre-elite camp run in conjunction with OBA Girl's U17 Championship at Conestoga College in Kitchener May 4 – 6.

Elite Camp

The roster is full. Twenty-eight (28) officials are on the roster for the 3PO elite camp run in conjunction with OBA Boy's U19 Championship at Queen University in Kingston May 25 – 27.

Novice Official's Development Camps #1 & #2

The format has been changed this year for the two 2PO Novice Official's Camps run in conjunction with the OBA U12 camps. The camps are back at Georgian College in Barrie. Camp #1 will run **July 16-18 and has 2 spots** left. Camp #2 will run **July 19-21 and has 4 spots left**. The emphasis this year is on individuals with limited, or no officiating experience. The idea is to also provide recruitment and basic training for potential officials to join local boards in the Fall. The ideal candidates are 1) 15 to 25 years old currently playing or have played high school basketball, OBA or higher and have had no officiating experience or officials; very good physical condition, desire to learn and a keen interest in exploring the possibility of becoming a basketball official. Or, officials who have just completed their first year of officiating with a local OABO board.

Ontario Summer Games (U14) Two Person Camp

Runs August 3-5 at Fanshawe College in London, arriving evening of August. The ideal candidate - **more than three years experience** who is looking to improve their current understanding of 2PO officiating; above average physical condition, desire to learn and a keen interest in improving his/her officiating skills. *There are 5 spots left.*

Ontario Summer Games Camp (U14) Three Person Camp

Runs August 3-5 at Fanshawe College in London, arriving evening of August. The ideal candidate - **more than three years experience** who is looking for an introduction to 3PO officiating, or the opportunity to improve their current skills. Officials should come to camp in above average physical condition, with a desire to learn and move their game to the "next level".

There are 6 spots left.

Please visit the Camps & Training Page of the OABO website http://oabo.ca/page.php?page_id=91961 for further information on the camps and the registration forms.

Selection for and Congratulations to Ontario's Summer Nationals Officials

The emphasis for OCAA's selection this past season was to provide opportunities for our veteran officials who are working at elite levels of basketball and fulfilling leadership roles at those and local levels that had been not qualified to NOCP 4 when they previously should have. To be blunt, we played catch-up.

The emphasis for selection to summer nationals was the opposite. The specific request was for officials entering the appropriate stages of the officiating pathway with potential and room to grow going forward. Although we had some applications from veteran officials working elite levels officials that more stringently met the criteria provided were selected. We will look to provide those officials not selected the opportunity for NOCP 4 assessment as soon as we can going forward.

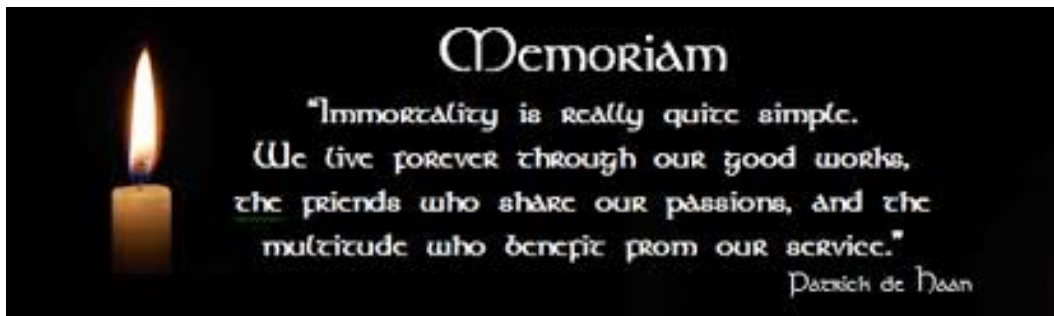
For this summer nationals, congratulations to:

Carine DiMaio (Sudbury)	U15 Women
Troy Bennett (Durham)	U17 Women
Janice Lui (York)	U17 Women
Saif Rehman (Peel)	U17 Women
Tommy Wu (York)	U17 Men
James McNeil (Toronto)	U17 Men

Deadlines and Timeframes for Provincial and National Tournaments

I was asked about some of the short deadlines we had this past season for officials to apply for provincial tournaments such as the OCAAs and national tournaments such as CCAAs and Summer Nationals. Some of the shorter timeframes were system induced and some self-induced. An example of system induced would be summer nationals. The process is evolving in respect to allocations and deadlines nationally. I received the 'final' allocations April 17th while on the road. I sent out the nomination announcement and form early the morning of the 20th with a 1-week turnaround since they were being reviewed and selections made on the 29th. I set the deadline for the Friday midnight rather than Saturday midnight to avoid having to process before the Sunday AM meeting. The OCAAs was a short turnaround also as I needed to confirm whether they were being run as NOCP 4 qualifications or not and it took until when it did to guarantee we had the needed the National Evaluators in place to do so. The expectation going forward is that the application processes will not change from what happened this past season and that the deadlines won't either as to approximate dates. The timeframes for nominations can thus be increased going out earlier.

Thank You, All the Best in New Positions and To All A Great Summer



Condolences to :

- the Niagara District Basketball Referees Association with respect to the passing of their former President Tom Bailey
- the Toronto Association of Basketball Officials with respect to the passing of former member Carole Ann Gibson

OABO EXECUTIVE CONTACT INFO

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<p>Don Thorne</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>141 Fallowfield Dr</p> <p>Suite 1206</p> <p>Kitchener, ON</p> <p>N2C 0B1</p> <p>donthorne@sympatico.ca</p> <p>519-576-5349</p> <p>226-749-1368</p>	<p>Arthur Wong</p> <p>Treasurer</p> <p>686 Warden Ave</p> <p>Suite 6</p> <p>Toronto, ON</p> <p>M1L 4W4</p> <p>arthur1985@gmail.com</p> <p>416-427-4735</p>	<p>Brian Seccareccia</p> <p>Northern Rep</p> <p>107 Fairmount Dr</p> <p>Sault Ste Marie, ON</p> <p>P6B 5Y1</p> <p>ehdell@hotmail.com</p> <p>705-759-6948</p>	



2018
OABO FALL SEMINAR PROGRAM
AD BOOK

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel
September 7-9

Name: _____

OABO Board Name
Or Business Company

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AD Size: Please circle one

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Business Card
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Patron's Page
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All ads should be submitted in black and white and camera ready (PDF or Word files please).
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ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 1, 2018

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CHEQUE PLEASE REFERENCE: OABO FALL SEMINAR 2018 PLEASE MAIL TO THE ATTEN-
TION OF THE OABO TREASURER ARTHUR WONG 686 Warden Avenue Suite 6
Toronto, Ontario M1L 4W4

Receipts are available upon request.

Questions regarding the AD book may be directed to: Don Thorne at donthorne@sympatico.ca

The Organizing Committee thanks you for your generous support to help defray the costs of the OABO 2017 SEMINAR & AGM.

TORONTO AIRPORT MARRIOTT
WELCOMES
ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS



HOTEL PROFILE

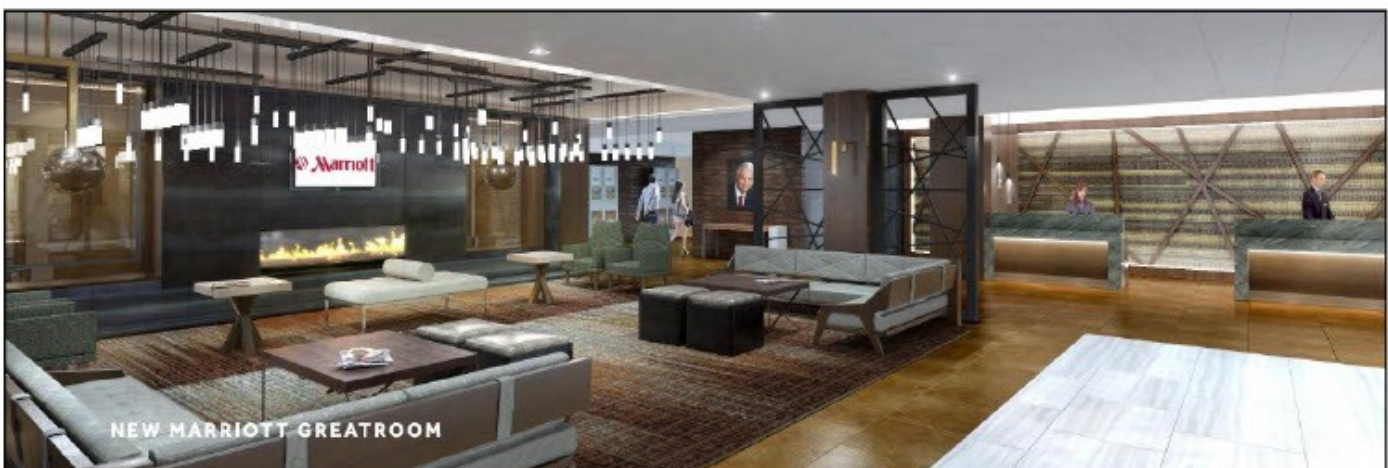
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- Service at the Front Desk

(exchange into Canadian funds only)

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(Monday – Saturday)

- Arrive at Front Desk by: 8:30AM

- Return to Guest by: 6:00PM

FITNESS CENTRE

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- Friday & Saturday 6:30AM – 12:00AM

GUEST COIN LAUNDRY

By Pool Area: 6:00AM – 11:00PM

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- Scotia Bank, 6725 Airport Road

- TD Canada Trust, 6575 Airport Rd

- HSBC Canada, 170 Attwell Drive

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GAS STATION

- Petro Canada, 585 Dixon Road

GROCERY STORE

- Metro (24-hour), 201 Lloyd Manor

LIQUOR STORE

- Beer Store, 1735 Kipling Avenue

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- Square One, 100 City Centre Drive

- Yorkdale Shopping Centre

1 Yorkdale Road