



February 2016 -Winter Edition

Jaime McCaig OABO President

OPENING REMARKS

I want to begin by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2016

I did not send out my monthly Presidents Message on February 1 as all of the information is included in this Winter Edition of The Whistle.

FIBA SHIRT

With the motion that passed at the AGM that OABO will move to the FIBA shirt effective September 2016 I have contacted a list of 5 suppliers with an invitation to attend our 2016 Local Presidents Meeting. They will make a presentation on the quality and pricing of the FIBA shirt in order to allow us to purchase in bulk but without compromising quality.

2016 OABO SEMINAR & AGM – SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 2

The Organizing Committee of the Ottawa Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials has been working very hard to plan a great event for all of us. The theme “Bringing it Home Naismith 125 years” is celebrating 125 years of

basketball history. I hope you will all take part. On behalf of the Committee Co-Chairs Jen Charbonneau and Bernie James, I recently sent a communication to all Local Board Presidents in which they were requesting input on the type of Educational sessions you would like to see. Please take the time to provide feedback to Jen and Bernie.

If you wish to book your accommodation please go to the Home Page of the OABO website at www.oabo.ca and click on the link.

IAABO

IAABO is committed to working with us and providing whatever resources we need as we transition from our last year of National Federation Rules to FIBA Rules at the High School Level. The members of OABO who have membership in IAABO will continue to benefit from the great Educational resources they continue to provide our 30 Chartered Boards. Along with that they continue to generously sponsor IAABO Conference Calls for all Local Board Interpreters or Designates on FIBA Rules. The

next one is Sunday, February 21 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. If your Local Board Interpreter is not available then please take the time to designate another member of your Executive to take part. OABO Interpreter Mike McPhee will provide the call in details prior to the scheduled date

I will be representing OABO(IAABO Board 102) at the IAABO Spring Meeting from April 21-24 in Orlando, Florida.

OCAA

We were advised by the OCAA that after review of the first half of the season they were happy with the new Regional Assigning system but as previously mentioned as you know there have been some growing pains which I am sure we all expected. I want to thank the Local Board Presidents and Local Board Assignors for their patience and co-operation. I will be extending an invitation to OCAA Executive Director Doug Gellatly to attend our Local Board Presidents meeting on April 30 in order for him to hear directly from the

Presidents on the pros and cons of the new system and provide to us their perspective after going through the Inaugural season.

The OCAA Women's Provincial Championships will take place at Niagara College on March 3-5/2016 and the OCAA Men's Provincial Championships will take place on March 5-7/2016 at Humber College.

OFSAA

The Boys Provincial Championships will take place March 7-9/2016

A Sault St Marie

AA Timmins

AAA Windsor

OUA

The OUA Hall of Fame Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 2 at the Toronto Airport West hotel at Dixie and 401 in Mississauga. The award recipient and final details will be announced shortly.

I would like to welcome Vern Bovell joining Sandy Forand and myself as OABO Representatives on the OUA/Oversight Committee for the 2015-2016 season. Vern was chosen by his fellow OUA Panel Officials to act as their spokesperson and he is actively involved and has certainly provided valuable insight. I encourage all Panel Officials to bring forward any concerns they have to Vern so they can be addressed. The OABO Executive felt it important for the current Panel Officials to have a voice at the table when it comes to decisions that affect the hard work they put in on the floor. As a

Committee our main goals to accomplish over this current season in conjunction with the OUA are as follows:

1. Hiring of a second Supervisor to be in place for the Pre-Elite and Elite Camps.
2. Creation of an annual Funding Plan for the Officials Development Plan. Currently as Panel Officials you contribute \$5000 which is matched by the OUA to create a pool of funds totaling \$10,000.

BASKETBALL ONTARIO

OABO has signed an official partnership agreement for 2015-2016 with the OBA. This is the first formal agreement in over a decade. I have included in this Edition of The Whistle a copy of the Press Release announcing the new venture. One of the main goals when signing this agreement was the commitment from both parties on the recruitment and retention of officials. The first step of that process was a Letter of Support I sent to the OBA in their formal bid application for a Grant from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport focusing on Officiating Development, specifically identifying the recruitment and training of female officials. Our goal is to assist OABO in increasing the number of female officials which currently only makes up 10% of our current membership of 1600 officials. The funding would greatly benefit both our organizations.

BASKETBALL ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

At our OABO AGM there was a motion passed to have standard Game Fees for all 2016 Provincial Championships on a 1 year trial basis. Please be advised this policy does not affect the Local Board Fees you have in place for all other OBA Club Ball games. The 2016 Ontario Cup Provincial Championships fees are as follows:

U10-U12 \$35

U13 \$40

U15-U19 \$50

Additional Expenses

1. Travel will be arranged by the Local Host Officiating Board, approved by OBA and reimbursement will take place following receipt of invoice.
2. Accommodations will be arranged and approved by OBA through third party service provider and paid for by Local Officiating Board. Reimbursement will take place following receipt of invoice.
3. Meals and Parking will not be covered unless otherwise approved by OBA.

ONTARIO SCHOLASTIC BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The new OSBA League has no doubt created challenges for both the OBA and OABO. I have been in recent discussions with Jason

Jansson to start looking at the most optimal structure for officiating moving forward to the 2016-2017 season including an increase in Game Fees and moving to a 3 person officiating crew. They are looking at expanding the league as well.

Bruce Covert and I will be meeting with Jason sometime in late March or early April. Prior to that meeting I will be contacting Local Board Presidents whose Local Boards had OSBA games to get a list of their concerns to discuss at the meeting. Further discussion will take place at the Local Board Presidents meeting on April 30.

2016 ANNUAL LOCAL BOARD PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The meeting will take place on Saturday, April 30/2016 at the Toronto Airport West Hotel from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The agenda continues to be a work in progress but to date here are items that need to be discussed.

1. OCAA Regional Assigning
2. Constitutional Review
3. Presentation from Reftown (Assigning Software)
4. Presentation from Suppliers (FIBA Shirt)
5. OBL
6. OSBA
7. Presentation from Ottawa Board on 2016 OABO Seminar

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The Central East Meeting consisting of Barrie, Durham, Toronto and York Region took place on December 3. I want to thank Jerry Goodeill, Dave Cutler, Tino Decastro & Rick Parnham respectively for their participation.

The West Region Meeting consisting of Elgin, Grey Bruce, Chatham Kent. K/W, London, Oxford, Sarnia & Windsor will take place on Saturday, April 30th prior to the annual Local Board Presidents Meeting. It will start at 8:00am.

The East Region consisting of Bay of Quinte, Cobourg, Kingston, Ottawa, Peterborough, Renfrew and Seaway Valley will take place on the evening of Friday, September 30 as part of the 2016 OABO Seminar in Ottawa.

CLOSING REMARKS

I know this is the time of year when everyone is pretty tired from the amount of games they have officiated at all levels and the long hours they have spent away from their families.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to your Local Boards and OABO.

Yours Truly

Jaime McCaig

President, OABO



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Thankfully we have seen a somewhat atypical season of winter weather, however a few more snow days would certainly be welcomed for this teacher. Guess it is a double edged sword in a way. I am hopeful the warmer winter has played a role in the moods of players, coaches, spectators and officials in that there has been only a few report incidents for the OBA Fair Play Committee to investigate. Now the glass half full side of me would be content to take this data a face value. However, having done this job of administering officials for years, I am pretty sure we are still not getting all the information about unsporting behaviours and disqualifications. Please make sure you file an independent report with your local board after each significant incident. The more timely this information gets to me, the more accurate the investigation and result can be. Basketball Ontario is committed to investigating and supporting the Fair Play Policy fully. We need to do our part to help affect change by filing reports. The OBA Fair Play Committee meets via conference call the second Wednesday of each month. The sooner we get the information about incidents around the province, the sooner an investigation can be launched and allow us to solicit other reports from convenors, clubs and such. We know officials want issues of unsporting behaviours dealt with. We can only deal with things that we know about. A couple of incidences have come up in conversations surrounding issues of coaches receiving technicals and being ejected, where misinterpretation of rules has been a triggering point of some of the emotion. Many coaches are extremely rules literate and as such notice when

we make errors on the floor it is a significant irritant when officials make preventable errors. There is absolutely no justification for officials to be yelled at and berated, ever, however if we are diligent in eliminating preventable errors we can minimize some of the triggering issues. Judgement is one thing that will always be something that draws critique, but misapplying rules related to things such as fall back, t-shirts and rule set differences need our full attention to make sure we aren't making those mistakes.

I have been fortunate to welcome back three of our local board officials to the floor after extended leaves for a variety of issues. It was refreshing to hear from them how very grateful they all are just to be back on the floor. Sometimes we all get hung up on the number of games and the level of games we get assigned. The competitive streak in officials compares our schedule with our peers and can sometime be a bone of contention when we see others working games we feel we deserve. Getting hung up on who is getting promoted and who is getting the big games can be a big energy drain and counter-productive. One of the returning officials commented to me that he was a very driven guy who wanted the big games and felt he was deserving of championships and those big games. He also expressed the thrill of just being back on the floor after a lengthy illness. Working a U12 game with him and seeing the smiles on his face was refreshing. Hearing him say how excited he was to be

back on the court officiating anything was also refreshing. Let's make sure we remember how privileged we are to officiate and not lose focus on why we got involved in the first place. Every assignment could be your last. Enjoy each game you do, cherish it and respect it.

IAABO and The York Region Association of Basketball Officials is proud to announce the creation of an IAABO Officials School in conjunction with the U17 Boys Ontario Cup tournament May 27-29, 2016. The school will provide FIBA training and evaluations for officials experienced in 3-person, who are interested in moving from NOCP 2 to NOCP 3 certification. Details are currently being constructed and will be forwarded out as they get finalized.

A new OABO website launch is a few weeks away. Please let me know if there are specifics you feel would be helpful to include on our new site. Any ideas or suggestions are most welcome.

Very soon board secretaries and presidents will be receiving a link to a survey from the IAABO office. This survey is being conducted by the IAABO Membership Development Committee with the goal to gather information across all IAABO boards related to recruitment and retention of officials. Please take the few minutes needed to provide your board's response when you get the link from Donnie Eppley. Congratulations to all of you nominated by your boards for OFSAA and other championship tournaments. Be proud of your nomination and serve the game and the clients with the utmost professionalism. They deserve it.

As always feel free to contact me with any needs or questions you

might have and I will do my best to support you.

IAABO Officials' School - Canadian Edition

IAABO has partnered with The York Region Association of Basketball Officials to construct an education clinic to support Ontario officials with on-going FIBA training. The school will coincide with the U17 Boys Ontario Cup tournament being hosted in Newmarket on the weekend of May 27-29, 2016. Provincial, national and IAABO clinicians will provide classroom training and game observations. There will be 16 spots in the 3-person school attached to Division 1. The target applicant to the school is an official with 3-person experience looking to improve and be considered for movement from NOCP 2 to NOCP 3 certification. Officials will be involved in classroom training as well as officiate 3 games in the tournament with post game feedback. Additional details will be circulated to OABO members as they are finalized.



Interpreter's Report-Mike McPhee

CABO Exam

For the 2014 exam 936 OABO officials wrote (58% of membership). The provincial average score was 80%. This year there were 1019 officials who wrote (63% of membership) with an average score of 78%. Although a lower score was achieved, the increase in the number of people and the fact that many wrote that hadn't ever before, the results are encouraging. The biggest issue was the number of people who did

not update their e-mail address with their local board. This meant that the original exam I.D. e-mail went to the wrong address, so they seemed to not have received it. This also created a second problem, when their information had to be individually uploaded to the exam site, causing a further delay. Unfortunately a number of those who had one of these problems waited until near the end of the exam period before addressing it.

With the onset of FIBA rules for all the games in Ontario this coming

year, I expected that there would be a much larger increase in the number of writers this year. Disappointingly, there were 13 local boards that had less than 45% of their membership who took the exam. Even more concerning to me, was that many of those boards have a significant amount of basketball played using FIBA right now. All of our members should be writing rules exams. It's one of the main ways that we prove we are qualified to officiate.

The top five incorrectly answered questions were as follows:

1. A4 is called for a disqualifying foul and must leave the game and the gym. Before leaving the court A4 verbally insults the official. The official then assesses a Bench Technical foul to the Team A coach. Is the official correct? NO – 28% Correctly answered.
2. Before A1's final free throw is released, B1 enters the lane followed by A2. Both were in a marked lane space. The try is unsuccessful. The official penalizes only the first violation. Is the official correct? NO -54% Correctly answered.

3. On a field goal try by A1, the ball is bouncing directly above the ring when B1 touches the ring. The official rules basket interference. Is the official correct? NO – 55% Correctly answered.
4. A4 is assessed a technical foul. The coach then requests to have A4 substituted. After the official beckons A6 onto the floor for A4, A4 verbally argues with the official. The official then charges A4 with a 2nd technical foul and disqualifies him for the rest of the game. Is the official correct? NO – 58% Correctly answered.
5. A1 releases the ball on a shot from the 3-point area. The ball on its upward flight is touched by an offensive player who is within Team A's 2-point area. The ball continues its flight and enters the basket. Team A is credited with 3 points. Is this correct? YES – 59% Correctly answered.

FIBA Mechanics

IAABO helped us publish a Canadian FIBA Edition manual complete with the updated rules as of Nov.1 and the updated mechanics as well. It is concerning that less than 800 of the books were distributed to local boards. This means that more than half of the provincial membership has the manual in their possession. Some boards have been doing a very good job of using the mechanics set to match the rules set of the games that they do, and are to be applauded for that. Some have not used FIBA mechanics for any games as yet, but are eager to begin training their members for the coming season. Still others have been using FIBA mechanics for NFHS games as well as FIBA ones. It is this latter group where some concerns exist.

Mechanics are by definition, the “practical guidelines for officials to obtain the best positions to see and to officiate the play, and administer the game” (from the manual). In short they tell us where to be on the court, where and when to move, what to focus our attention upon, and how to administer things like time outs, foul shots etc. The signals of a game are attached to the rules of the game, so no matter what mechanics a crew is using, the

NFHS signals (all of them) should be applied to high school play, and the FIBA signals (all of them) to OBA , OCAA, and OUA games. Officials need to take care not to cause confusion by misusing a signal that does not relate to the rules. The two sets of signals have significant differences, and each set has some signals that do not exist in the other. (i.e. NFHS has 30 second time out signal, that rule doesn't exist in FIBA). There are even rules confusions occurring because of the use of a set of mechanics. One example that has been shared with me concerns not allowing 6 players in lane spaces in a high school game, because the crew is using FIBA mechanics.

Next year we will not have the issue, but please let's finish the NFHS season by doing things correctly.

Ofsaa FIBA in 2016-17

As the change to FIBA based rules for Ofsaa approaches, a lot of people are speculating about what will or won't be followed. In order to have the motion for FIBA to pass, the SAC committee had to agree to allow 5 things as “keepers” from the previous rules set. Three of them were non issues, as they are already FIBA rules or are part of the Basketball Ontario modifications we use. (Court markings, Uniform

numbers, playing time). The remaining two concerned the use of a 35 second shot clock, and the calling of time outs (remaining as it is currently in NFHS).

I have written modification documents, which have been sent to Ofsaa and the SAC committee, and I am confident that they will be adopted as prepared. The important things to remember when discussing the changeover are the following. At no time will the term NFHS rules be used. Ofsaa events will be playing FIBA rules with modifications for High Schools. Local areas may switch to complete FIBA rules, as the schools in Thunder Bay have done, or they may opt to not play FIBA until they go to Ofsaa (our OCAA schools used to do that).

As is often the case, you will come across people who are naysayers about the shot clock, not pure FIBA etc. Our approach should be a positive one. We have been urging the move for years, and there is finally an adoption of the FIBA game with very few changes,

so let's celebrate that.

Lastly, some advice if you are asked by a local school about what floor markings to put down. A couple of areas have had the question already from schools installing or redoing a floor. This is the best answer: Have them put

down the FIBA wide key and the NFHS key that exists now. The three point lines should also be two (the current NFHS 19.75' and the FIBA 6.75m). This is especially true if OBA games are played on the courts in question. There is no need for the "no charge" semi-circle, unless college or higher level games are to be played there. The "accommodations" to adopt FIBA next year use the old HS floor markings. That said then if Ofsaa does go to new markings at a later date, the schools in question wouldn't have to repaint at that time.

Basketball Ontario

Each year we get more consistent across the province with how OBA games are handled. There have been three items however which have come to light concerning non application, or misapplication of a rule, or set of parameters. No games at the OBA level are using the live 14 second reset when the ball hits the ring and the offense

gains control. All resets off the rim are to 24 seconds. Two charts were sent out to all boards that address the playing parameters for each age group, and the uniform requirements for each age group. OBA has asked me to remind all members of the drop back rules that apply to the U-10 to U-14 groups. They are different for each level, but all of them require us to enforce them, and apply the penalty stated in the chart. The last of the list comes from teams that travel to play in other areas, and find that the uniform restrictions are not consistent, or in some cases not enforced at all. Let's all of us work at correctly handling these situations.

Unfortunately the Basketball Ontario coaches' manual got published with an error on court markings. The old reference to the trapezoid key was left in. OABO and OBA have agreed that for the remainder of this season, if there is a trapezoid key and an NFHS key as the only options,

then the trapezoid key may be used if that is the wish of the convenor of the games on that court.

OABO/IAABO Conference Calls

The initial conference call of the season had 12 boards participating. There are two calls remaining for the year. The dates are: February 21 at 7:00 PM and March 20 at 7:00 PM. These are good opportunities for local interpreters, to interact about Ontario centred topics. It is unfortunate that more boards, including some of the large boards aren't represented. If each OABO member can encourage their local board to join the call, then information can be more widely shared. One way to do this is to suggest topics that you feel need clarification to your board, and have them get the topic on the call agenda.

Mike McPhee – OABO Interpreter

Northern Report – Brian Seccareccia

With the months of February and March fast approaching the play downs to determine the local, regional, provincial and national champions will take place. Good luck to all of the officials that have been selected to referee any of these games. Enjoy the moment.

Listed below are some of the highlights from our northern boards.

North Bay
submitted by John Fong

For North Bay it has been pretty busy as I am sure it has been for all of the boards in Ontario. We had the annual Tomahawk tournament in December where we saw officials from Sudbury, Timmins, Barrie, Cobourg, Hamilton, and the Toronto area come to assist us. We had another tournament in January with some of the same officials r

eturning to help us out. We look forward to helping out the Timmins board in the next few weeks. The

OCAA schedule has kept us busy as we have officiated Canadore College games locally and as well as travelling to Sudbury to officiate Cambrian games.

Sault Ste. Marie
submitted by Jeff Bussineau

With the boys high school basketball season well under way

we officiated a Senior Boys Tip Off tournament and the Nystedt Junior Boys tournament in November. The Catholic Elementary school league has just started. We look forward to the annual Guy Vetrie Tournament in February and also hosting the OFSAA "A" Provincial Championships in March.

Timmins
submitted by Pierre Thibodeau

The Timmins board has been busy as the high school boy's league, intermediate league and the Men's and Women's league are all in action. We sent three officials to North Bay in December and two in January to help them during two tournaments. O'Gorman High School is hosting the Zenon Ziemba Tournament on February 5th and 6th. Timmins will also be the host for the first time to the Aboriginal Sport and Wellness Council of Ontario (ASWCO) who will be co-ordinating one of the biggest aboriginal tournaments in the province. It will be played over three days in February and we will be requiring help from our neighbouring northern boards to cover all of the games. We look forward to hosting the OFSAA "AA" Provincial Championships in March with Timmins Anna Delcol travelling back to her home town to be the RC for the tournament.

Thunder Bay
submitted by Doug Reid

This fall Wally Peterson was recognized for 35 years of service as a basketball official. He continues to referee at a high level and serve as our training officer. Our officials began the fall season with a pre-season high school varsity girls' tournament at

Lakehead University where we provided officials for 20 games. We provided officials for ten pre-season games at Lakehead University, where both men and women teams welcomed out of town teams. We provided officials for all Varsity and Junior Varsity Girls at the high school level in Thunder Bay. Our officials were instrumental to the completion of all high school playoffs at the AA level in Thunder Bay and at the AA and A levels in nearby communities. One of our officials, Rod Miller, continues to work with the OUA panel. Matt Goble travelled to Windsor in November and officiated in the Girl's OFSAA "AAA" Provincial Championships and was selected to referee the Consolation Final. Well done Matt! The high school boy's seasons are well under way, and we provided officials for pre-season tournaments in December, as well as for the annual Falcon Invitational Tournament in January.

Sudbury
submitted by Charles Ketter

GSBBO continues to enjoy a healthy schedule of games at all levels. Now into the Boy's season we also supply officials for multiple elementary tournaments, club ball and Men's Recreational. The Christmas and exam breaks have spread the high school schedule out as we prepare to use 3 person crews for all of their playoff games.

We will be running a couple of clinic type situations to provide input to those officials with limited experience. This will involve some exhibition games as well as assigning the Men's League games as 3 person where crews will have at least one experienced official working. This, along with court side observers for feedback, will give us the additional

members necessary to cover. With a dozen or more experienced officials we will be wholly engaged on the first 2 days of play and all members are being encouraged to attend games and observe the officials. Next season we should be in a much better situation to cover these games with our expanded experience.

At the present time we have been contacted by a robust elementary situation that will see every available weekend and a number of week days taken up with numerous games. If this season develops like the past few, the number of elementary games will once more dwarf our high school totals. Several have moved to FIBA rules anticipating the high school move next season.

The local Athletic Director of Sports for the secondary panel has already contacted me to schedule, if possible on the first PD day, a workshop for coaches and Table crews in preparation. We hope all issues with the high school move, particularly as related to their variations, are completed for presentation at our annual President's meeting.

We will have 2 of our members travel to Sault for the OFSAA-A tournament where we know they will be welcomed and enjoy a great time. We are hoping that OBA play in North Bay will also engage some of our local members.

The OCAA system of assigning stretches the resources of each Board in this region, but we believe it has encouraged officials to step their game up. It has also been a motivator for several of our local younger members who look forward to stepping into that role. With the OFSAA "A" Provincial Championship in the Sault and the OFSAA "AA" Provincial Championship in Timmins there

will be those opportunities for northern officials to work at those levels. It will also be such for some of southern brothers to enjoy the life of the north.

Give them a great game!

Bruce Covert Provincial Supervisor

The following have been selected to work the **2016 OCAA Women's Provincial Championship**. Please note that Niagara was only able to supply two officials so there are ten traveling officials' vs the six that would normally be selected:

Niagara Azlan Bacchus
Niagara Ryan Bissonnette
Ottawa - Kayla Herdman
Sudbury Alyssa Ferreira
TABO Georgia Risnita

Durham Lindsay Walsh
Ottawa Tamara McNulty
KW Melissa Famme
London Kyle Pollard
Hamilton Martin Bourgeois

Quinte Darrell McGrath
Peel Dan Estey
ALT Saif Rehman Peel

The following have been selected to work the **2016 OCAA Men's Provincial Championship**:

TABO Vince Pileggi
TABO Farhan Baig
TABO Tony Rowe
TABO Christine Voung
TABO Dave Bohnen

TABO James McNeill
Brantford Mark Baxter
Peel Greg Spagnoli
KW Farnoud Kazemzadeh
London Tim Cook

Kingston Colin Hoehne
Durham Calvin Charles
ALT Tom Langford

CCAA Women Nominations

Ottawa - Kayla Herdman
Sudbury Alyssa Ferreira
TABO Georgia Risnita
Ottawa Frances Enns
KW Melissa Famme
Hamilton Pascale Mapleston
ALT Ardavan Eizadirad TABO

CCAA Men Nominations

Peel Greg Spagnoli
ALT Calvin Charles Durham

CIS Championship Nominations:

Men

Chris Delaney
Vern Bovell
David Maxin
Frank Rizzuti
Jeff Bates

Rich Stehlik

Women

Robb Caporicci
Justin Walsh
Anna Del Col
Sean McMamney
Jeff Bussineau
Nick Borich

Congratulations to all and good luck.

Bruce

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

The Executive Committee would like to remind all that the following boards have agreed to host the OABO AGM weekend for the planned dates:

2016	Ottawa	Sept 30 – Oct 2
2017	OABO (Airport West Hotel)	Sept 29 – Oct 1
2018	Niagara	Sept 28 – 30

As of February 1st, OABO Membership consists of a total of 1430

Active Officials (includes 17 Honorary Members), 110 Associate Members and 49 non-officiating members.

The next edition of The Whistle will include the various deadlines that will be coming up in early summer.

With less than a month left of NHFS rules we, the OABO Executive, CABO and IAABO are working diligently to create FIBA rules educational material. CABO has accepted IAABO as the experts in producing educational material and to that I have included a letter from Tom Lopes,

IAABO Executive Director with fantastic news outlining what IAABO has done and is in the process of doing to provide Canada with FIBA educational items. I have been working with IAABO regarding concerns of the US vs Canadian dollar difference. We now have a plan. I am very proud to announce that IAABO has agreed to reduce their membership fee to all Canadians because of the Canadian dollar being well under par to the US dollar. IAABO membership for those in Canada will be **\$28.50 USF** which is very close to \$40 Canadian. This is a \$7 USF reduction yet only a \$5 Cdn fund increase. IAABO will review this fee yearly. Once the Canadian dollar reaches and/or surpasses par, the membership will return to \$35 Canadian.

Lastly, wasn't the weather in the first week in February fantastic? I can never ever recall seeing no snow on the ground on February 2. I Facebooked a photo with the comment "where are my golf clubs when I need them" and Tina quickly replied "in the basement where they should be". What a quick step back to reality. Oh well spring is less than 6 weeks away and who knows... maybe golf by March break... touch wood

. Don

IAABO Transitions into FIBA

The ever changing basketball officiating world is about to change again. Specific regions in Canada that currently use the NFHS rules set will be adopting the FIBA rules set starting this coming September.

IAABO has been proud to create the NFHS instructional materials over the years that provided assistance to new officials as well as to the veterans. Utilizing these materials, new officials were certified and entered the

officiating world with the necessary skill set to perform their tasks. IAABO exams were created to certify officials. IAABO Refschool was also created to help prepare these new officials as an aid to passing the exam.

The IAABO instruction video, "You Make the Ruling", is the best around and utilized by almost all high school associations in the United States. IAABO is now committed to create these same materials utilizing the

- **FIBA rules training manual,**
- **Refschool (small fee) which in essence provides sample FIBA rule based questions to assist the candidate in passing FIBA based test questions.**
- **Five issues a year of Sportorials which cover rule interpretations, human interest articles and general information regarding the association including a FIBA section.**
- **Developing videos similar to You Make the Ruling that we use for the Federation but which use FIBA rules. (Being developed as we speak).**
- **Each member receives an IAABO FIBA Handbook containing the rules, interpretations, case book and mechanics.**
- **Play of the Week, based on FIBA plays**
- **Reduced subscription fee for Ref Magazine**
- **Reduce dues to Canadian IAABO members based on the current difference between the US and Canadian dollar (\$28.50 US funds for this coming year)**

FIBA rule set so that Canadian officiating can continue to perform at the same high level.

We continue to work at advising all the Provinces of the material we have

developed at IAABO for their use, again with the thrust that these materials allow the interpreters to all teach the same rule interpretation and mechanics consistently.

The material includes:

We are currently working the York Board, OABO and CABO on the logistics of conducting a FIBA training and NOCP certification camp in May to attract officials wanting to improving their skills. This would involve

classroom sessions and on the court critiques and evaluations to assist officials in moving to the next level of NOCP certification. Further information will be found in this newsletter.

We look forward to our continued relationship with OABO and our IAABO Canadian Boards.

Tom Lopes, IAABO Executive Director

Membership Support Officer's Message - Tino DeCastro

News from around Ontario...

CBOC is formed transforming the way National Championships operate. A partnership between Canada Basketball CABO and the CIS. See below for further information

Also I continue to forward all Provincial evaluations out to local board Presidents, please contact if you are still waiting on some reports.

Tino MSO

OABO EXECUTIVE-2015/16

President	Vice President	Secretary-Treasurer	Supervisor	Interpreter	Northern Rep	Membership Support Officer
Jaime McCaig	Rick Parnham	Don Thorne	Bruce Covert	Mike McPhee	Brian Secceraccia	Tino DeCastro
386 County Rd 28	272 Elmview Gardens	563 Westheights Drive	Box 678,	Box 297 36 Thomas St	107 Fairmount	56 Rusholme Rd
Belleville, Ontario	Keswick, Ontario	Kitchener, ON	Colborne, ON	Harriston, ON	Sault Ste Marie, ON	Toronto, ON
K8N 4Z7	L4P1G1	N2N 1M6	K0K 1S0	N0G 1Z0	P6B 5Y1	M6J3H5
<i>jaimemccaig@gmail.com</i>					<i>ehdell@hotmail.com</i>	
	<i>rpamham@rogers.com</i>	<i>donthorne@sympatico.ca</i>	<i>brucecovert@usa.net</i>	<i>oabo.interpreter@gmail.com</i>		<i>decastro123@rogers.com</i>
		<i>dthorne@northfieldmetal.ca</i>				



2016 OABO Conference & AGM
 Sept 30 – Oct 2, 2016
 Ottawa, ON

Save the Date & Join Us in the Beautiful Nation’s Capital.

We’ll be celebrating 125 years of Basketball in a BIG Way!! Plans are well underway and will include:

- Exceptional Educational Seminars – geared toward Officials of all levels
- Dynamic Renowned Presenters
- Leadership Clinic – Learning from the Best!!
- On Site “History of Basketball” Museum
- Coach’s Program & MUCH More!!

It’ll be a weekend jammed-pack with fun, friends, food & learning!!

CANADIAN BASKETBALL OFFICIALS COMMISSION 2016 CIS OFFICIALS SELECTION PROCESS

PREAMBLE

This will be the inaugural season for the CBOC. For the 2015-16 season information will be collected from multiple sources in order to determine the 24 officials who will be assigned to the 2016 CIS Nationals. The final decision of the officials for the championships will be made by the CBOC. The recommendations will be made by the CIS Selection Panel, chaired by Jim Cervo.

DATES OF COMPETITION

March 17-20, 2016. Travel dates will be March 16th and March 21st.

LOCATIONS

Women: University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.

Men: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

The Subcommittee will consist of 6 members representing CABO, Canada Basketball and the four conferences of the CIS.

- **Chair** - Jim Cervo, CABO Education Chairman, will serve as the inaugural chair of this selection committee.
- **Canada Basketball Representative** - who will serve in an ex-officio role
- **The remaining four members of the committee** - will be selected from CABO National Assignment and Evaluation Panel members representing each of the CIS conferences. Each member will be knowledgeable about the officials in their respective conference. They will be expected where applicable to review and seek consensus with the conference supervisor regarding the nominated officials

STANDARDS FOR CONSIDERATION

Officials nominated must meet CBOC requirements as follows:

- Demonstrate exemplary communication skills with coaches, players and fellow officials
- Display consistent call quality and judgment that demonstrates a clear understanding of the rules and their correct application
- Present an image of fitness required for an elite level tournament
- NOCP Level 4 or 5
- Minimum score of 86% on the 2015-16 National Rule Exam
- Officials must have been evaluated at a national tournament
- Officials must be FIBA rules certified and have officiated at a minimum seven (7) CIS university men's games to be nominated to the CIS men's national championship or 7 CIS women's university games to be nominated to the CIS women's championship.

These games must have been played during the current competitive season, and may include exhibition, league or playoff games.

SELECTION PROCESS

Jim Cervo, the Chair of the CBOC CIS Selection Panel, will circulate a nomination form to the CABO National Council by **January 15th**.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Officials from each province will have the opportunity to be nominated in accordance with the breakdown listed below. Each Provincial Officials Association will determine the nominees that will be submitted from their province in accordance with the breakdown below. All nominations are to be submitted using the nomination form and must include the signature of both the Provincial Officials Organization and representative of the CIS Regional Association. Nominations are to be submitted by February 1st.

**Each province will be allocated the following breakdown of nominations:
For 2016 ONLY**

CIS women	CIS Men
BC nominate 2	BC nominate 2
AB nominate 2	AB nominate 2
SK nominate 2	SK nominate 2
MB nominate 2	MB nominate 2
ON nominate 6	ON nominate 6
QC nominate 2	QC nominate 2
NS nominate 2	NS nominate 2
NL nominate 1	NL nominate 1
NB nominate 1	PEI nominate 1
PEI nominate 1	NB nominate 1

FINAL SELECTION

The Chair will review the lists and ensure that all nominees meet the nomination requirements. The committee will then review the nominations and select 12 officials for each tournament.

A minimum of 8 officials for each of the respective championship tournaments must have previous CIS national championship experience at the assigned tournament. Up to 4 officials may be selected to their first CIS national tournament. The criteria for selection of these officials should include previous national championship performance(s) at CCAA or Canada Basketball national championship tournaments.

The chair will only accept nominations that have both the provincial and applicable conference supervisor signatures.

Four crew chiefs will be selected for each tournament. These crew chiefs will be used on day one only.

At the women's tournament consideration will be given to have female crew chiefs for day one

The nominated officials will be submitted to the CBOC for approval by **February 10th**.

Officials selected for assignment will be notified by **February 12th**.

**Canadian Basketball Officials' Commission
Sub-Committee – Assigning and Evaluation
Terms of Reference**

Purpose

The Canadian Basketball Officials Commission (CBOC) is a commission reporting to the Board of Directors of Canada Basketball (CB). The purpose of this structure is to create and strengthen alignment in Canadian basketball.

The ***Sub-Committee – Assigning and Evaluation (A&E)***, under the guidance of the CBOC, is a sub-committee designed to carry out assignment and evaluation activities of officials in the development pathway.

The A&E will provide guidance on:

- Development of the CBOC assignment and evaluations model
 - Ensuring that the assignment policies and procedures are long-term athlete development (LTAD) appropriate.
 - Ensuring that there is alignment in Canadian basketball in the methods for assigning and evaluating officials in the high performance pathway.
 - Ensuring the model is fair and transparent
- Develop a template for PTSOs to use in establishing/ensuring that the purpose and process of evaluating and assessing officials through early development within their respective Province streams with CBOC high performance pathways.
- Creating a mentorship system for officials identified on the high performance pathway.
- Activation of these polices where appropriate as directed, including the assignment and evaluation of officials for National Championships including; Canada Basketball U15 and U17, CIS and CCAA.
- Development, as part of the CBOC, with the CBOC Education and Development Sub-Committee, the Canadian basketball community and FIBA, of an appropriate officiating philosophy and high performance plan for high performance pathway officials.

All work by the A&E, under the umbrella of the CBOC and Board of Directors of Canada Basketball, and in relation to the work done by the staff and coaches of Canada Basketball, will factor into the growth and development of basketball in Canada.

Goals

The goals of the A&E include but are not limited to:

- Compiling a summary of strengths and weaknesses of Canada's current model for assigning and evaluation as compared to other federations' models and determining what barriers exist that will hinder the transition to a new competitive model.

- Developing an improved assignment and evaluation model with policies, procedures and criteria for national appointments that is clearly communicated to all officials in the pathway, officials' leadership, members, and coaches throughout Canada.
- Scheduling of assignments, in accordance with the established policies, procedures and criteria, to each game, while operating within the established budget.
- Carrying out evaluations in accordance with the established policies, procedures and criteria including providing assigned officials with post-game reports, noting strengths, areas requiring improvement, and recommended actions to achieve improvement.
- Carrying out an annual assessment of the progress toward the achievement of the objectives set out by CBOC pertaining to the development of basketball officiating in Canada as it relates to assignment and evaluation.
- Ensure there is synergy between the Development and Education Sub-Committee especially in regards to officials' identification.

Membership

The 6 members of the CBOC Assignment and Evaluation Committee will consist of representation from each of the following:

(It is recommended that all members of A&E have solid knowledge of LTAD as well as basketball competition and either officiating experience, teaching knowledge or IT knowledge)

One from the CBOC – to be appointed by the CBOC.

One from the membership of CB – to be appointed by CB – ex-officio

One from the general CABO membership (that is preferably a current or recent FIBA official or FIBA supervisor/commissioner) – to be appointed by CABO.

One CIS representative – to be appointed by CIS.

One CCAA representative – to be appointed by CCAA.

The role of the A&E will be to understand the gaps of the Canadian official's assignment and evaluation pathway and utilize the tools available through our international federation (IF), FIBA, and design the optimal system for Canada.

The length of terms for membership on the Commission Assignment and Evaluation Sub-Committee shall be for two years.

At the end of the two years, the CBOC will review the established protocols.

Meetings and Communication

Sub Committee members are required to attend all meetings, which will be held by conference call, and in person when possible. Representatives that are not able to meet this requirement will not be considered for appointment to the A&E.

Reporting

The A&E is both a recommendation-making committee and working committee. The A&E will do research and formulate creative recommendations to be approved by the Commission and will then be tasked with implementing the approved processes.

Minutes of the A&E meetings will be kept and provided to the CBOC. As well, the A&E will provide a written report to the CBOC in summary of its deliberations and in support of its recommendation to the membership.

Administrative Support

There will be one representative from Canada Basketball assigned to provide administrative support as well as assist in gathering additional technical information.

Canadian Basketball Officials' Commission Sub-Committee – Development and Education Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Canadian Basketball Officials Commission (CBOC) is a commission reporting to the Board of Directors of Canada Basketball (CB). The purpose of this structure is to create and strengthen alignment in Canadian basketball.

The Sub-Committee –Development and Education (D&E), under the guidance of the CBOC, is a sub-committee designed to create an aligned and long-term official development pathway.

The D&E will provide guidance on:

- Activating all CBOC policy where appropriate as directed.
- Integration of FIBA educational tools to develop new Canadian educational system.
 - Create efficiencies and easy to use tools for all levels of officials training across Canada.
 - Recommend a communication structure to ensure that all education tools and processes created are easily shared across the country.
 - Provide a rationale for the recommended models
- Creating a mentorship system for officials identified on the high performance pathway.
- Ensure the official's educational system is long-term athlete development (LTAD) appropriate.
 - Considerations must include recreational and high performance competition.
 - Working with FIBA and the Canadian basketball community to create a high performance plan for high performance pathway officials. This strategy should include individual personal improvement plans.
- Ensure there is alignment in Canadian basketball.
 - All recommendations will be made in consultation with CB staff as pertaining to training of athletes and coaches as well as competition at all levels.

All work by the D&E, under the umbrella of the CBOC and Board of Directors of Canada Basketball, and in relation to the work done by the staff and coaches of Canada Basketball, will factor into the growth and development of basketball in Canada.

Goals

The goals of the D&E include but are not limited to:

- Compile a summary of strengths and weaknesses of Canada's current model and compare to other federations' models.
- Determine what barriers exist that will hinder the transition to a new competitive model for membership.
- Ensure there is synergy between the Assigning and Evaluating Sub-Committee especially in regards to officials' identification.

Membership

The 6 members of the CBOC Education and Development Subcommittee will consist of representation from each of the following:

(It is recommended that all members of D&E have solid knowledge of LTAD as well as basketball competition and either officiating experience, teaching knowledge or IT knowledge)

One from the CBOC – to be appointed by the CBOC.

One from the general CABO membership (that is preferably a current or recent FIBA official or FIBA supervisor/commissioner) – to be appointed by CABO.

One member appointed by CB – to be appointed by CB.

One CIS representative – to be appointed by CIS.

One CCAA representative – to be appointed by CCAA.

CABO National Interpreter

The role of the D&E will be to understand the gaps of the Canadian official's development and education pathway. The D&E will understand the tools available through our international federation (IF), FIBA, and design the optimal system for Canada.

The length of terms for membership on the Commission shall be for two years.

At the end of the two years, the CBOC will review the established protocols.

Meetings and Communication

Commission members are required to attend all meetings, which will be held by conference call, and in person when possible. Representatives that are not able to meet this requirement will not be considered for appointment to the D&E.

Reporting

The D&E is a recommendation-making committee. The D&E will do research and formulate a creative and affordable plan. Economics must be considered prior to taking any action.

Minutes of the D&E meetings will be kept and provided to the CBOC. As well, the D&E will provide a written report to the CBOC in summary of its deliberations and in support of its recommendation to the membership.

Administrative Support

There will be one representative from Canada Basketball assigned to provide administrative support as well as assist in gathering additional technical information.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

ONTARIO BASKETBALL AND ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

The agreement will take effect during the 2015-16 season and lay the foundation for future collaborative efforts

Ontario Basketball (OBA) announced Wednesday a formal partnership in development with Ontario Association of Basketball Officials (OABO). While the organizations have collaborated for many years, this is the first formal agreement in over a decade.

"Ontario Basketball is delighted to partner with OABO," said Greg Verner, President, Ontario Basketball. "Both associations recognize that it is in the best interest of the sport to collaborate in order to provide a safe and fun environment for our membership and to support our game officials."

Highlights of the agreement include initiatives to develop game and minor officials through training and evaluation camps and to standardize rates for the 2016 Ontario Cup Provincial Championships based on categories within the long-term athlete development model.

"While we have worked together in numerous capacities to provide Ontario Basketball's membership with quality officiating, this agreement will showcase collaboration and develop refereeing standards for officials that will focus on delivering excellence at all levels of the game," said Jaime McCaig, President, Ontario Association of Basketball Officials. "We look forward to making this a mutually beneficial relationship and to facilitating the promotion of basketball within the province."

This partnership is the next step in Ontario Basketball's commitment to support skill and fitness development, recruitment and retention of referees and encouraging fair play on and off the basketball court.

For more information on Ontario Basketball programs and services please visit www.basketball.on.ca.

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About Ontario Basketball

Ontario Basketball is the sport governing body for basketball in the Province of Ontario. Created more than 70 years ago as the Ontario Amateur Basketball Association, the organization is a not-for-profit association and was incorporated as such in 1977. Ontario Basketball represents the province of Ontario's amateur basketball interests. The membership is made up of athletes, coaches, officials, members clubs, camps, local basketball organizations, groups, leagues and basketball supporters. The most recent annual report is available at www.obaannualreport.ca.

About Ontario Association of Basketball Officials

Ontario Association of Basketball Officials was formed to organize, unite, and educate all basketball officials in the Province of Ontario. OABO is affiliated with Ontario Basketball, the Canadian Association of Basketball Officials, and the International Association of Basketball Officials and acts as the official voice for basketball officials within Ontario on any and all provincial matters pertaining to basketball officiating. More information can be found at www.oabo.ca.

OBA FALL BACK RULE – Notice from Mike McPhee

Age Category	U10	U11- U12	U13 – U14
Drop back Rule (enforced by officials)	A team can only defend in own backcourt	If leading by 15 pts or more have to allow opponents to advance ball to frontcourt	If leading by 15 pts or more have to allow opponents to advance ball to frontcourt
Penalized by awarding frontcourt throw-in at throw-in line			

In addition, if there is a trapezoid key and an NFHS key as the only options, then the trapezoid key may be used.