

Referee-in-Chief Report to Annual General Meeting – June 17th, 2024

The board awards three scholarships to attend the BC Hockey Officiating Summer Schools each year for officials who are aiming to officiate hockey at the elite levels. One of the scholarships is specifically for Indigenous officials. We have a disproportionately large number of female officials reffing and lining up to the Usport, national and IIHF levels and all of them have attended the summer school and been instructors in our own clinics.

Even more important that the summer school is that we have Sarah Lash instructing our officials at our clinics and games throughout the season. We are so fortunate to have Sarah with her depth of experience and understanding coupled with a delightful personality. The PCAHA awarded her the Coach of the Year trophy for her work with us. This is the first time an officiating coach has received the award.

Underlining all of that is our board who over the years has created the financial foundation and support that makes this possible.

Each pre-season we host in-house ref training clinics in groups related to the refs' ages and experience that run over 8 days. These precede the pre-season games in the last week of August where they can use the past week's training and get ready for the new season. The Labour Day weekend is when we host a BC Hockey Officiating Clinic on one of its days. We generally have between 20 to 40 attendees who include not only our own players, but parents, other adults and male siblings of our own players.

During the December/January school break we host similar clinics as in the pre-season.

For the first time, we also hosted a BC Hockey Officiating Clinic for Indigenous youth and adults on December 30th and 31st. The Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (ISPARC) fully funded the event. The attendees came from as far as Chilliwack. We are waiting on approval from BC Hockey to host a similar clinic in the pre-season, including one for returning officials.

The Spring 4 on 4 games are another great opportunity for our refs to get on the ice and keep their skills "fresh".

Many thanks to all the officials who make our games possible and the parents who drive their child to arrive 30 minutes before the games' start on top of taking them to their own practices and games.

Dairobi Paul
Referee-in-Chief
ref@vfiha.com
604-569-4420

The following are stat's on the games our officials have reffed/lined:

FIRST YEAR OFFICIALS

Most		23
Least		0
Average		3
0 Games		12
1 to 10 Games		11
10 to 20 Games		2
20 to 30 Games		1
30 to 40 Games		0
40 to 50 Games		0
50 to 100 Games		0
100+ Games		0
Total Refs		26

SECOND YEAR OFFICIALS

Most	32
Least	0
Average	7
0 Games	4
1 to 10 Games	10
10 to 20 Games	2
20 to 30 Games	1
30 to 40 Games	1
40 to 50 Games	0
50 to 100 Games	0
100+ Games	0
Total Refs	18

THIRD YEAR OFFICIALS

Most	26
Least	2
Average	12
0 Games	0
1 to 10 Games	2
10 to 20 Games	2
20 to 30 Games	1
30 to 40 Games	0
40 to 50 Games	0
50 to 100 Games	0
100+ Games	0
Total Refs	5

4TH YEAR OFFICIALS

Most	84
Least	1
Average	8
0 Games	0
1 to 10 Games	5
10 to 20 Games	4
20 to 30 Games	0
30 to 40 Games	0
40 to 50 Games	0
50 to 100 Games	2
100+ Games	0
Total Refs	11

FIFTH YEAR & ADULT OFFICIALS

Most	194
Least	0
Average	42
0 Games	2
1 to 10 Games	4
10 to 20 Games	5
20 to 30 Games	4
30 to 40 Games	1
40 to 50 Games	2
50 to 100 Games	6
100+ Games	3
Total Refs	27

Lot's of games!