

## Western Region Officiating Report 2016-2017

My goal as coordinator for the past six seasons has been to work with Western Region officials and evaluators to continue the growth of our officials and push them to achieve higher level rankings by being evaluated and attending clinics. We are starting to move in that direction with numerous upgrades in rank of officials in the Western region with the help of many keen and hardworking evaluators and referee in chiefs. Western Region has had a fantastic year within the officiating community. Here is a list of current Western Region officials and some who have recently moved to other centers in the province who attended U12 provincials, A's, AA's, Eastern's and CRC's.

U12 Provincials	A Provincials	AA Provincials	Eastern Ringette Championships	Canadian Ringette Championships
Tosha Kelly	Brian Breckles	Chris Feher	Mark Goldhawk	Chris Faulds
Natalie Evans	Brittany Flowers	Chris Faulds		Chris Feher
Vivian Dowdell	Steve Baker	Steve Baker		Steve Baker
Brittany Flowers	Andrew Brady	Andrew Brady		Lorie Grant (Supervisor)
Ethan Sweeney	Mark Goldhawk	Mark Goldhawk		
Kelsey Baker	Jessica Mezenberg	Lauren Sebastian		
Heather Verhoeve (supervisor)	John Mezenberg	Marina Richardson		
	Katelyn Wilson	Katelyn Wilson		
	Lauren Sebastian	Lorie Grant (Supervisor)		
	Marina Richardson			

With our success at the elite ringette events in Ontario and Canada where I continue to see a need is with our associations who are on the outer part of our region and with our newer officials. I am looking forward to developing some strategies to address these needs for next season and continue to grow a strong referee base in the Western Region.

Regionals was a huge success we had 44 officials attend and 3 evaluators. We were able to complete more than 25 evaluations and give valuable feedback to officials to improve their officiating. Next year we hope to have a few more evaluators and supervisors at arenas to help with the feedback and evaluating.

Our Western Region A/AA Officiating Assignment Program continued to be managed by Steve Baker. Steve continues to do a fabulous job of managing the system. The size of our region

continues to be an issue with the sheer number of games that need covered each and every weekend with very few games being played during the week. If our focus as scheduler's and as association was to try and get more ice times during the week it would be a big help in finding more refs to cover games, especially at the higher levels. We continue to struggle covering the demands of games on weekends, especially when there are tournaments happening that weekend. It is my recommendation that associations try to schedule more league games during the week if possible or meet in neutral locations to play some of the league games. Unfortunately it was a struggle to cover games in Owen Sound this year, with the sheer number of games to be officiated and the time commitment involved to travel to Owen Sound it was very difficult to get officials to go.

We have developed a shortage of referees in the outer areas of the Western Region. We need to focus our efforts in some of the outlining associations and encourage new referees to join and encourage the current refs to attend tournaments, clinics and look to upgrade within the referee hierarchy.

### **Ongoing Issues**

#### *Assigning:*

This was our sixth year using the arbiter software. The human aspect still needs to be in place and games still need to be scheduled properly in order to utilize the officials we have in the region properly. Referees also need to be more responsible for blocking off their availability and accepting games in a timely manner.

#### *Evaluations:*

We have 3 community, 3 provincial and 2 regional evaluators. Referees need to be willing to travel to larger tournaments to be evaluated. I am hoping to have several of our Referee in Chiefs as well as more senior referees attend an evaluators clinic in the fall or host one in the Western region to get more qualified evaluators, the only way to improve our referees is to improve our evaluators and get more people into these roles.

#### *Lack of Referee's in some Associations:*

Some associations (especially those on the outskirts of the region) need to focus on developing referees (current ones as well as new ones into the system). Several associations only have 1-2 officials within their entire association. Associations need to take responsibility to attract new referees. It is hard to have a ringette game without referees.

Regards,

Denise Pelletier

Western Coordinator